

From: NCSL TODAY
Sent: Friday, March 9, 2018 11:08 AM
To: Price, Ciara
Subject: U.S. added 313,000 jobs in February

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TOP NEWS March 9, 2018

U.S. added 313,000 jobs in February

The Washington Post

The U.S. economy added 313,000 jobs in February, smashing expectations, according to Friday's employment report from the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The unemployment rate held steady for the fifth straight month at 4.1 percent, an 18-year low.

Daylight saving time? Some states could soon ditch it

Governing

Florida is closest to ending the clock-changing practice, but other states have flirted with the idea.


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New data shows opioid crisis is just getting worse

The Hill

The number of Americans turning up in emergency rooms suffering from opioid overdoses has risen sharply in recent years, according to new federal data, as the size and scope of a devastating public health crisis evolves in ways officials say is difficult to combat.

[NCSL 'deep dive' on opioids.](#)

Fake service dogs a crime under Iowa Senate bill

Des Moines Register

Iowans could be charged with a crime if they intentionally misrepresent an animal as a service dog or service-dog-in-training under a bill passed Wednesday by the Iowa Senate.

Statehouses have a ways to go to accommodate new moms

National Public Radio

For Kathy Tran, the decision to breastfeed her daughter on the floor of the Virginia House of Delegates was simple. "I had a baby that was hungry and I needed to feed her," Tran says. **NCSL's Katie Ziegler** quoted.

Aid-in-dying gains momentum as erstwhile opponents change their minds

Stateline

Connect with legislative peers and policy innovators and explore the constantly changing work of state legislatures.

From skills training to policy deep dives, you'll take home ideas you can put into action in your state.

[NCSL](#)

The Canvass elections newsletter

Our American States
podcast: Economic argument for early childhood education

Nominations open for Online Democracy Award

[BLOG](#)

Early care and education winter quarter update

This e-update features a short list of new NCSL resources. Included in this batch of resources now available to you is a LegisBrief about legislative children's caucuses, an archived webinar about state home visiting programs, a webpage dedicated to the opioid epidemic and more.

Between 2013 and 2017, medical aid-in-dying became legal in California, Colorado, Vermont and the District of Columbia. At least 25 states may follow suit.



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Washington: 202-624-5400

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7700 East First Place, Denver, CO 80230

From: Ashley Varner

Sent: Monday, March 12, 2018 7:15 PM

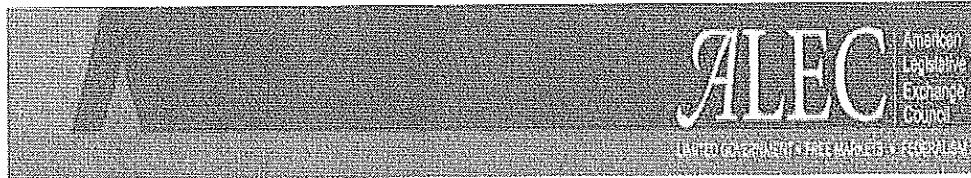
To: Rep76

Subject: Sarah, Add Your Name: Open Letter to Congress Opposing Sales Tax Collection Across State Lines

Dear Sarah,

Please add your name to the below ALEC coalition letter advising Congress not to allow states to require sales tax collections on businesses that have no physical presence within the respective state.

Such aggressive taxation would require businesses to understand and comply with rates, exemptions, rules, tax holidays and other peculiarities for **12,000 different tax jurisdictions**. State lawmakers across the country are urging Congress not to allow such aggressive taxation. Please join the letter today by providing your name here.



March 12, 2018

Dear Members of Congress,

As state legislators, we oppose the attempts to overturn constitutional precedent safeguarding Congress's essential authority to protect interstate commerce from discriminatory regulation and taxation. As a result, commerce has grown, unfettered between the states. Such a populous and geographically expansive free trade zone is largely responsible for the abundance of wealth and opportunity—unrivaled in history—spread across our nation. Unfortunately, some state policymakers are attempting to resolve their overspending problems to look aggressively beyond their own state lines for tax revenue. This misguided bid to resolve their overspending problems utterly violates the constitutional principles that provide a proving ground for innovation, entrepreneurship and small businesses.

The U.S. Constitution was written to replace the Articles of Confederation in no small part due to the latter's failure to prevent a spiraling interior "war" of states who could assert tax and regulatory authority outside their borders and thereby create fiefdoms for themselves. The Constitution's Commerce Clause and subsequent jurisprudence make clear that taxing power must be limited by state borders. Businesses lacking a "substantial nexus" or link to a state through a "physical presence" such as offices, employees, or property, cannot be forced to act as tax collection agents for that state (*Quill Corp v North Dakota* (1992)). If the Supreme Court overturns *Quill*, state tax collectors would be empowered to reach across their boundaries to collect taxes from non-resident online retailers located outside of their jurisdiction. These retailers could face fines or legal challenges from taxing jurisdictions based on rules in which the online retailers have no voice.

Forcing online retailers to understand and comply with remote rates, exemptions, rules, tax holidays, or other peculiarities of 12,000 different tax jurisdictions (roughly twice as many as existed in 1992) is highly discriminatory. Contrast this with the treatment of sales in similar brick-and-mortar businesses, which only require collection of tax for the jurisdiction in which they are physically located. The compliance costs would fall particularly hard on specialty businesses and small sellers that are dependent on the internet to reach their customers. This would stunt economic dynamism, deter business activity, and unreasonable burden businesses engaging in interstate commerce.

As state legislators, we recognize the threat to growth, and to each of our states, posed by the potential unleashing of aggressive out-of-state tax collectors and auditors on businesses located elsewhere. For nearly 20 years, ALEC members have steadfastly supported the physical presence standard outlined in Quill through model policies such as the Sales and Use Tax Collection Protection Act as well as the 21st Century Commercial Nexus Act. Our constituents overwhelmingly agree (according to a Rasmussen Reports Poll) with our opposition to allowing tax enforcement agents from one state to collect taxes from hardworking individuals and businesses elsewhere. Healthy economic competition in a free market, between the 50 "laboratories of democracy," is at the heart of the American experiment with federalism. Each year, the Rich States, Poor States publication reveals how tax policy affects state tax competition and economic outlook. Blurring—or eliminating? the limits of any individual state's sovereignty—erodes the efficacy of this experiment.

Sincerely,

From: Gongwer News Service
Sent: Tuesday, March 13, 2018 4:37 PM
To: Rep76
Subject: House & Senate Floor Report

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**News
Bill Tracking
Legislation**

HOUSE ACTIVITY REPORT

INTRODUCED

HB 545

SALES TAX REMITTANCE (Arndt, S.)

To authorize small retailers to remit sales taxes when the retailer receives payment from the purchaser if the payment is received after the purchased item is delivered or the service is provided.

HB 546

TELEMEDICINE (Patton, T.)

To prohibit health benefit plans from treating telemedicine services differently from in-person

health care services solely because they are provided as telemedicine services.

HB 547

RETIREMENT CREDIT (Edwards, J.)

Regarding Public Employees Retirement System service credit for services as a nonteaching school employee of a county board of development disabilities.

HB 548

MOTORCYCLE OPERATION (McClain, R.)

To permit a person to wear earplugs for hearing protection while operating a motorcycle.

HB 549

SCHOOL YEAR (Arndt, S.)

To generally require public and chartered nonpublic schools to open for instruction after Labor Day.

HB 550

FAMILY LEAVE (Boyd, J., Boggs, K.)

To establish family and medical leave insurance benefits to provide paid leave to allow an individual to address the individual's own serious health condition, to care for a family member, or to bond with a new child and to exempt those benefits from personal income tax.

HB 551

MINOR WORKERS (Perales, R., Romanchuk, M.)

Regarding hazardous occupations prohibited for minors and providing training to certain minors employed in a construction or manufacturing occupation.

HB 552

ANIMAL TREATMENT (LaTourette, S.)

To establish requirements governing the chemical capture of animals, prohibit the use of gas chambers when euthanizing an animal, and to make changes

to the law governing euthanasia of an animal by lethal injection.

HB 553

THEFT IN OFFICE (Cupp, R.)

To expand the increased penalties for theft in office based on the amount of property or services stolen and to include as restitution certain audit costs of the entity that suffered the loss involved in the offense.

RE-REFERRED

SB 170

COMMERCIAL DRIVER LICENSES (LaRose, F.)

To require the Director of Public Safety to seek approval from the United States Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration to implement a temporary pilot program regarding the waiver of the skills test for a commercial driver's license that applies to present and former military personnel.
House Government Accountability & Oversight

REFERRED

Economic Development, Commerce & Labor

HB 542

EARNING STATEMENTS (Kelly, B.)

To require an employer to provide earnings and deductions statements to each of the employer's employees.

Education & Career Readiness

HB 540**TEACHER EVALUATIONS (Gavarone, T., Manning, N.)**

With regard to teacher evaluations.

HB 544**SCHOOL SAFETY STANDARDS (Rogers, J., Perales, R.)**

To require the State Board of Education to adopt rules prescribing standards for safety enhancements to new public and nonpublic school facilities and to require the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission to revise its construction and design standards to comply with the State Board's standards.

Health**HB 541****VOLUNTEER HEALTH SERVICES (Patterson, J., LaTourette, S.)**

To authorize health professionals licensed in other states to provide volunteer health services during charitable events.

State & Local Government**HB 539****STATE DOG (Rezabek, J.)**

To designate the Labrador Retriever as the official state dog.

HB 543**COUNTY PROSECUTORS (Perales, R., Hambley, S.)**

To allow a county prosecuting attorney to enter into a contract with a regional airport authority, port authority, or regional planning commission to be its legal adviser.

Transportation & Public Safety

HB 537**ROAD NAMING (McClain, R.)**

To designate a portion of U.S. Route 30 in Wyandot and Crawford Counties as the "Lt. Harry L. Martin Memorial Highway."

Ways & Means**HB 538****LGF ALLOCATIONS (Cera, J., Rogers, J.)**

To increase the proportion of state tax revenue allocated to the Local Government Fund from 1.66% to 3.53% beginning July 1, 2019.

SENATE ACTIVITY REPORT**RECOMMITTED IN SENATE****HB 24****VETERAN ORGANIZATIONS (Ginter, T.)**

To modify the existing tax exemption for veterans organizations' property to include property of certain veterans organizations exempt from federal taxation under section 501C(4) of the Internal Revenue Code and to exclude property that is not used primarily for meetings, administration, and the provision of programs and services to past and present members of the United States armed forces.

Senate Ways & Means

Please send all correspondence to gongwer@gongwer-oh.com. This mailbox is not regularly monitored.

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From: jmroge@gmail.com on behalf of James Rogers [jmr@salonschools.com]

Sent: Wednesday, March 14, 2018 9:26 PM

To: Rep76

Subject: Oppose Sub. H.B.189

Dear State Representative:

Respectfully we plead: Represent us! Sub. H.B. 189 is bad for US, and bad for OHIO!

Proponents will say: House Bill 189 reduces regulation and reduces barriers to entry into the cosmetology field.

The Reality: House Bill 189 devalues the licenses of the nearly 100,000 cosmetologists in Ohio. Most of which are small businesses and most of which are run by women. This bill is being pushed by large chains which crave large amounts of low wage, low skill labor to fit their business model.

More than 30 states agree at least 1500 hours are necessary, a fact supported by leading experts in the field. H.B. 189 reduces EDUCATION, not regulation, and reduces STANDARDS, not barriers!

Proponents will say: The substitute version of the bill will fix the reciprocity problem opponents highlighted in the original version.

The Reality: The substitute bill DOES NOT FIX the reciprocity problem. If it is passed, ALL Ohio cosmetologists will lose their right to practice in 47 states! As one Representative put it during the committee hearing: "This will make the cosmetology license not worth the paper it's printed on."

Proponents will say: This bill was vetted and the opponents were asked for their input but refused to participate.

The Reality: Opponents were never asked for their input during the creation of this legislation and their concerns have gone unanswered from the beginning. That is why more than 3000 cosmetologists have signed a petition of opposition to the bill and committee hearings were filled to capacity with opponents!

Proponents will say: A licensed EMT only needs 800 hours of training to save lives. Cosmetologists don't need 1,500 hours of training.

The Reality: This is a specious comparison. The proponents conveniently leave out the fact that a fully licensed medic will undergo 2 years of education akin to an associate's degree, and the fact cosmetology training includes a "clinic" component which requires volunteers to complete.

Proponents will say: 1000 hours is enough training.

The Reality: Choosing the lowest bidder is often foolish. After decades, only 2 states are "the lowest" at 1000 hours. Before we rush in to join that lowest group, should we not see some reliable, factual, objective data to support the need to do so? The proponents have now reversed the slashing of hours in esthetics and manicuring that the original bill recommended. This calls their research and knowledge into question.

Proponents will say: This bill will reduce student loan debt for cosmetology students.

The Reality: Reducing hours does not proportionally reduce student loan debt. The proponents' own research indicates that the average student loan debt for a cosmetology student in Ohio is reasonably similar to the average student loan debt in NY and MA, the only 1,000 hour states in the country.

Further, Reducing hours will actually INCREASE student loan debt for the struggling low-income student, as such disadvantaged students will not qualify for as much Pell Grant aid and, therefore, will be forced to use more loan funds and incur more debt! More debt-less education! Why would anyone vote for that?

James M. Rogers – Past Chair: Ohio State Board of Cosmetology

15553 Matville Road

Orient, OH 43146 Phone: 614-309-4700

From: jmroge@gmail.com on behalf of James Rogers [jmr@salonschools.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 15, 2018 9:49 AM
To: Rep76
Subject: HB 189

Dear State Representative:

Respectfully we plead: Represent us! Sub. H.B. 189 is bad for US, and bad for OHIO!

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The Reality: House Bill 189 devalues the licenses of the nearly 100,000 cosmetologists in Ohio. Most of which are small businesses and most of which are run by women. This bill is being pushed by large chains which crave large amounts of low wage, low skill labor to fit their business model.

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James M. Rogers – Past Chair: Ohio State Board of Cosmetology

15553 Matville Road

Orient, OH 43146 Phone: 614-309-4700

From: Heartland Government Relations

Sent: Friday, March 16, 2018 10:36 AM

To: Rep76

Subject: The Leaflet: School Choice Increases Student Safety and Improves Learning

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the leaflet

Weekly policy updates from
THE HEARTLAND INSTITUTE 

School Choice Increases Student Safety and Improves Learning

Florida children will now have a greater ability to choose the school they attend, as well as increased scholarship opportunities, after Gov. Rick Scott (R) signed House Bill 7055 into law on Sunday. The Sunshine State is already a leader in the national school choice movement, but this new law bolsters the state's drive for education freedom in two important ways.

First, it increases funding to the Gardiner Scholarship Program, an education savings account (ESA) program for special-needs students. Second, it establishes the Hope Scholarship Program—a unique voucher allowing victims of bullying, harassment, and violence in K–12 public schools to enroll in another public or private school.

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In response to the law's passage, Heartland Publications Director Sam Karnick said, "Government policies that force children to go to schools where bullies lie in wait or other unsafe conditions are tolerated does great emotional and academic harm to the most vulnerable children. No child should be required to attend a school where he or she feels unsafe. Every state should have a program like Florida's, and in fact every state should make such relief universal for all children who suffer from feeling unsafe at school."

In a recent article, Kevin Currie-Knight and Jason Bedrick of EdChoice outline how education choice initiatives help prevent school bullying and reduce dangerous school environments. It is estimated between 25 percent and 33 percent of students have been bullied at school. The epidemic of school bullying has coincided with a disturbing uptick in teen suicide rates.

In their article, Currie-Knight and Bedrick also include some of the heartbreaking letters they've received from parents desperately hoping for school choice options because their local-public school has failed to protect their children from bullying.

The Florida school choice legislation comes at a time when the National Center for Education Statistics' 2 latest *Condition of Education* report shows that average scores in reading and mathematics have largely remained static since the 1970s. Only 36 percent of 4th grade students and 34 percent of 8th graders performed at or above the proficient level in reading. For math, the results are equally dismal. Just 40 percent of 4th students performed at or above proficiency and just 33 percent of 8th graders achieved the baseline proficient score.

State legislators should take note of the overall subpar performance of American children and work to create school choice programs that give those kids better opportunities.

Polling shows parents overwhelming support school choice programs. For instance, a recent American Federation for Children survey found nearly two-thirds of likely voters

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support school choice, including 41 percent who strongly support it. School choice is even stronger among Latinos and African-Americans.

An EdChoice report concluded the overwhelming empirical research on private education choice programs demonstrates they improve academic outcomes for private *and* public schools, save taxpayer money, and help improve classroom diversity.

As Policy Analyst Tim Benson concludes in his *Research & Commentary*, “The goal of public education in the United States today and in the years to come should be to allow all parents to choose which schools their children attend, require every school to compete for every student who walks through its doors, and make sure every child has the opportunity to attend a quality school.”

What We're Working On

Energy & Environment

A Critique of the U.S. Global Change Research Program's 2017 Climate Science Special Report

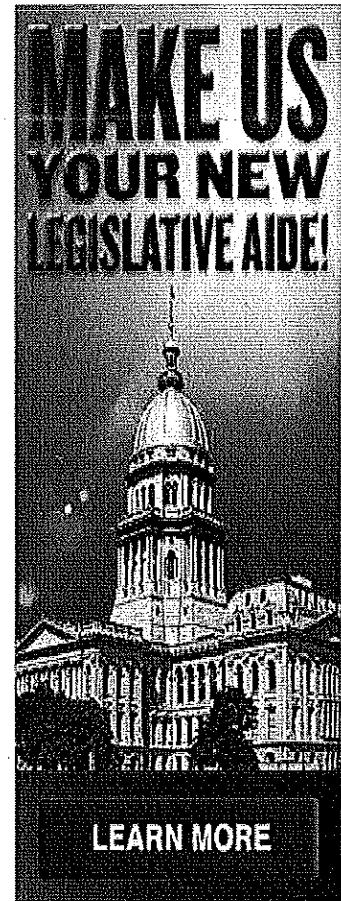
This Heartland Institute *Policy Study* evaluates and rebuts the "Climate Science Special Report" (CSSR) released by the U.S. Global Change Research Program (USGCRP) in November 2017. This 52-page response by Heartland Science Director Jay Lehr and 18 distinguished climate scientists and meteorologists provides a devastating critique of CSSR, which, according to the authors, suffers from many of the same shortcomings appearing in prior work produced by USGCRP. This *Policy Study* refutes CSSR's assumption that "the science is settled" concerning global warming and exposes the report's inherent biases. For instance, the authors posit the CSSR relies heavily on information from the U.N. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, which has a long history of making failed predictions and creating deeply flawed reports. The report also uses hard data to prove extreme weather events, such as wildfires, droughts, and hurricanes, have not become more frequent or powerful in recent years, despite many claims to the contrary made by environmentalists and USGCRP scientists.

Education

Public Schools Are Failing U.S. Students

In this *Research & Commentary*, Policy Analyst Tim Benson writes about the first in a series of papers from the Center for Education Reform (CER). CER reports nearly half of all American students are growing up in low-income families without access to a quality education. Benson notes the paper provides a litany of data showing the mediocre job the traditional public school system has done in educating U.S. children, and Benson argues improving education in America is the most urgent public policy challenge facing lawmakers today, stating that the key to improving K-12 education is increasing school choice opportunities.

Budget & Tax



POLICY NEWSPAPER

Steve Forbes' Epic Rant

The Heartland Institute's newly launched *Flashes of Freedom* video series features Steve Forbes, who argues capitalism is not only effective, it's moral. In his presentation, Forbes, a former presidential candidate and editor-in-chief of *Forbes* magazine, dispels the popular sentiment that capitalism is evil and greedy, and instead argues that free-market capitalism, coupled with limited government, is the most moral economic system in history. "The truth is markets are moral ... because they meet the needs and wants of other people," Forbes said.



Health Care

How One State Is Trying to Make Health Insurance Affordable Again

Heartland Government Relations Coordinator Arianna Wilkerson, writing in *Townhall*, highlights some Iowa lawmakers' efforts to relieve people in the state of their expensive, ever-rising health insurance premiums. Two bills currently advancing through Iowa's legislature would facilitate the creation of association health plans and allow nonprofit agricultural organizations to offer health benefit plans, not insurance, to their members. Both bills would benefit consumers in the Hawkeye State by giving them more health care choices.

In the February issue of *Budget & Tax News*, Lindsey Curnette reports about a manufacturing company responding to a business incentive: Wisconsin's Right-to-Work law. The company is moving jobs from its plant in Arizona to its Wisconsin facility. The company will also hire local workers for other high-paying positions.

From Our Free-Market Friends

Want Money For Roads? Take It from This Failing Program
Michael LaFaive and Jarrett Skorup of the Mackinac Center for Public Policy argue Michigan should abandon its Michigan Business Development Program (MBDP), which provides subsidies to businesses that have been cherry-picked by bureaucrats. Currently, the state's budget allocates about \$115 million into MBDP and related subsidy programs. Since Michigan lawmakers are clamoring for more dollars to fund infrastructure, ending the program would make \$115 million available, which, according to LaFaive and Skorup, is being wasted. A review of MBDP finds that every \$500,000 spent on

School Reform News

Environment & Climate News

Health Care News

business incentives is correlated with 600 fewer jobs in the county in which the project took place.

	The Heartland Institute	Our Websites
	The Heartland Institute, founded in 1984, is a national non-profit organization dedicated to discovering, developing, and promoting free-market solutions to economic and social problems.	The Heartland Institute PolicyBot The Freedom Pub The Parent Trigger Climate Conference

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Heartland Government Relations
The Heartland Institute
3939 North Wilke Road
Arlington Heights, IL 60004

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From: Lundregan, Scott
Sent: Friday, March 16, 2018 5:05 PM
To: latourism@gmail.com; LaTourette, Sarah; Reineke, Bill
CC: Myers, Marisa; Kasych, Shawn
Subject: 32118 Whip
Attachments: Weekly Briefing 3-21-18 MM SL with snap.docx

Reps. LaTourette and Reineke,

Attached and below please find the whip information for next week. If asked about the status HB 345, Rep. Butler is working on an amendment that would alleviate any concerns raised by the proposed floor amendment during the last session.

Please let me know if you have any questions. If you could get us your responses by Monday around noon that would be great.

As always, Thank you so much for all your hard work!

Scott

Bills for Third Consideration

- House Bill 345 – Rep. Butler – Pending in Government Accountability and Oversight
 - o Award prizes for curing diseases
- House Bill 351 – Reps. Perales, Butler – Reported out of Ways and Means (17-0)
 - o Require municipalities to tax exempt pay of NOAA and PHS members
- House Bill 360 – Rep. Greenspan – Reported out of Education and Career Readiness (10-7, Hood)
 - o Enact Ohio Anti-Bullying and Hazing Act
- House Bill 392 – Rep. Stein – Reported out of Economic Development, Commerce, and Labor (13-2)
 - o Grant apiary owners immunity from certain torts
- House Bill 405 – Rep. Perales – Reported out of Criminal Justice (11-0)
 - o Make counterfeiting a corrupt activity crime

- House Bill 410 – Reps. Seitz, Butler – Reported out of Government Accountability and Oversight (8-4, Greenspan)
 - o Regulate civil enforcement scheme for traffic cameras
- House Bill 451 – Rep. Retherford – Reported out of Government Accountability and Oversight (12-0)
 - o Exclude depictions of crime victim's body from public records
- House Bill 481 – Reps. Greenspan, Fedor – Reported out of Transportation and Public Safety (12-0)
 - o Create Stop Bullying license plate
- House Bill 506 – Reps. Hill – Reported out of Government Accountability and Oversight (8-3)
 - o Revise law governing high volume dog breeders
- House Bill 190 – Reps. Lepore-Hagan, Schuring – Reported out of Transportation and Public Safety (15-0)
 - o Stop, watch, and listen for on-track equipment at rail crossings
- House Bill 343 – Rep. Merrin – Reported out of Ways and Means (12-5, Green)
 - o Regards how local governments are to contest property values
- Senate Bill 143 – Sen. Eklund – Reported out of Health (18-0)
 - o Designate International Ataxia Awareness Day
- Senate Bill 170 – Sen. LaRose – Reported out of Government Accountability and Oversight (10-0)
 - o Waive commercial driver test for military and veterans
- Senate Bill 226 – Sen. Bacon – Reported out of Ways and Means (20-1)
 - Make sales tax holiday for clothes and school supplies permanent

Snapshots

House Bill 345

As medical spending increases year after year, HB 345 seeks to promote research and development in a way that incentivizes innovation while containing cost. With the goal of finding cures, not just treatments, HB 345 creates the Solemn Covenant of the States, an interstate compact designed to award prizes for curing diseases.

The compact will create a Commission to review research, determine if a cure has been found, and award prizes. The Commission will choose diseases eligible for award and estimate public health expenses to treat those diseases. Prize money will be equal to the total

5-year savings in public health expenses in all the compacting states. The winner must transfer the patent and all related intellectual property for treatment to the Commission in exchange for the prize. The Commission can then make treatment widely available.

By pooling resources, states can drastically increase financial incentives for organizations that discover reliable and verifiable cures of major diseases with little risk to taxpayers.

Proponents of HB 345 include the Gala Hope Foundation, Ohio Pharmacists Association, Ohio Right to Life, and Pancreatic Cancer Action Network. The bill has no opponents. It was reported by the Health Committee 12-3 with Reps. Antani, Huffman, and Kick voting "no."

The bill was re-referred to the Government Accountability and Oversight Committee to address the types of research that can be conducted under the Compact.

House Bill 351

In order to further support those that service our country, HB 351 exempts municipal income tax on earnings while members of the "uniformed services" are on active duty.

The "uniformed services" consist of the 5 members of the Armed Forces (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, including the guard and reserve components), the US Public Health Service, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The armed services already receive this exemption in Ohio, leaving the other two components of the uniformed services excluded.

The officers of the USPHS and NOAA are deployed in hazardous, emergency situations and can be militarized by the President when needed – this bill would ensure that they are granted the same tax treatment as the other members of the uniformed services.

HB 351 would have a negligible fiscal impact on municipalities, and the Ohio Municipal League is neutral on the bill. The bill was reported unanimously by the Ways and Means Committee.

House Bill 360

Ohio law requires public schools to adopt anti-bullying policies that prohibit "bullying, harassment, or intimidation" of another student, address disciplinary responses for violations, and set reporting requirements. HB 360 seeks to strengthen the anti-bullying statute, while providing schools with flexibility to address issues.

HB 360 allows schools to institute tiered suspensions based on the number of bullying incidents: the first offense would be up to 10 days suspension, the second would be up to 30 days, and the third would be up to 182 days. The school could also prohibit a bully from participating in extracurricular activities.

Additionally, the bill specifically permits a school to develop a community service plan for the bully and offer counseling and/or support for the bully and victim. HB 360 requires the State Board of Education to review best practices and requires state institutions of higher education to adopt policies regarding bullying and harassment.

Several changes were made to the bill in committee that focused on providing local school districts more flexibility and control over dealing with cases of bullying on an individual basis. The committee also accepted an amendment that exempted independent and private schools from the provisions of the bill.

HB 360 was reported by the Education and Career Readiness Committee 10-7 with Rep. Hood voting "no."

House Bill 392

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HB 392 provides immunity to beekeepers in personal injury or property damage cases that occurs as a result of a bee sting if the beekeeper does all of the following:

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- o Registers their colonies with the Department of Agriculture;
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HB 392 is supported by the Ohio State Beekeepers Association and the Ohio Farm Bureau, but opposed by the Ohio Association for Justice. The bill was reported by the Economic Development, Commerce, and Labor Committee 13-2.

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Experts have stated that, in the vast majority of cases, counterfeiting is part of a criminal investigation involving drug offenses and often crimes of violence. Thus, the bill is also an important step in fighting the war on drugs.

Proponents include Kevin Dye of the US Secret Service and the Fraternal Order of Police. There was no opposition testimony. HB 405 was unanimously reported out of the House Criminal Justice Committee.

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Additionally, HB 410 would offset the revenue generated through traffic camera schemes in the municipalities' allocation of LGF dollars. The LGF money would be redirected to a new state fund for traffic safety.

HB 410 was reported by the Government Accountability and Oversight Committee 8-4 with Rep. Greenspan voting "no."

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Current law requires a public office to allow for the inspection of records or obtain copies of public records that contain depictions of a victim's body. HB 451 exempts the depiction (by photograph, film, videotape, digital image, or printed material) of a crime victim if the release of the depiction would be an objectionable intrusion of a reasonable person's expectation of bodily privacy or the depiction contains or captures the victim of a sexually oriented offense at the actual occurrence of the offense.

HB 451 closes an important loophole in public records law and ensures a victim's privacy is protected. Due to the risk of exposure of harmful documents, this bill has an emergency clause.

HB 451 is supported by the Ohio Prosecuting Attorneys and the Ohio Alliance to End Sexual Violence. The bill was reported by the Government Accountability and Oversight Committee unanimously.

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HB 506 alters the definition of high volume dog breeder to an establishment that keeps, houses, and maintains 6 or more breeding and does at least one of the following:

- o sells 5 or more adult dogs or puppies to a dog retailer or pet store
- o sells 40 or more puppies in any given calendar year to the public, OR
- o maintains, at any given time in a calendar year, more than 60 puppies that are under 6 months of age that have been bred, kept, housed, and maintained from birth on the premises of the establishment.

The bill also establishes standards of care for high volume breeders enforced by the Department of Agriculture.

HB 506 was reported by the Government Accountability and Oversight Committee 8-3.

House Bill 190

Current law requires motorists to watch, listen, and stop for a train under certain circumstances at railroad crossings and requires other vehicles, like school buses, to watch, listen, and stop regardless of the situation when approaching a crossing.

To ensure safety at railroad crossings, HB 190 extends these requirements, aimed at avoiding collisions with a train, to on-track equipment, which can be as big and often as dangerous as a train. It also extends the same penalties for failure to comply with these provisions.

HB 190 was reported by the Transportation and Public Safety Committee unanimously. The bill is supported by the Ohio Railroad Association and has no opponents.

House Bill 343

Under current law, local governments may file complaints contesting the value of properties through the Board of Revision process. In some cases, the attorneys filing these complaints on behalf of the local governments have significant leeway to file changes, generating business for themselves, with little oversight in a small number of local governments. HB 343 ensures local governments are actually authorizing these complaints.

HB would require local governments to pass an authorizing resolution and notify property owners in advance in order to contest property values. This will increase transparency and accountability in this process.

HB 343 is supported by the Ohio Chamber of Commerce, Ohio Manufactured Homes Association, and Ohio Real Estate Investors Association, but is opposed by the County Commissioners Association, Ohio Township Association, and the Ohio Association of School Business Officials. The bill was reported by the Ways and Means Committee 12-5 with Rep. Green voting "no."

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SB 170 requires the Director of Public safety to seek approval from the US Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration to implement a temporary pilot program regarding the waiver of the skills test for a commercial driver's license for military personnel. This waiver would allow many qualified veterans to pursue a career as a truck operator.

Additionally, the committee accepted an amendment that specifies the current universal validation sticker for large fleets of cars, 500 or more, does not expire. This saves valuable time for businesses that operate these large fleets.

SB 170 was reported by the Transportation and Public Safety unanimously. The bill was re-referred to the Government Accountability and Oversight Committee for the purpose of including the amendment. It was reported 10-0.

Senate Bill 226

For the past three years, the Legislature has enacted a sales tax holiday on a year-to-year basis. SB 226 will create a permanent sales and use tax exemption on certain back-to-school items during the first Friday, Saturday and Sunday of August of each year.

The tax exemption applies to items of clothing costing \$75 or less per item. It also applies to school and instructional material costing \$20 or less per item. There is no limit to the number of items that a consumer may purchase tax free. The intention of the sales tax holiday is to provide families with a tax break on back-to-school shopping, while also stimulating economic activity for businesses.

Additionally, the committee approved an amendment to create a new levy option for Educational Service Centers. Under the language, ESCs could seek voter approval for levies to pay for security upgrades and mental health services if boards of every school district in the ESC's territory adopts a resolution in support.

SB 226 passed the Senate unanimously and was reported by the Ways and Means Committee 20-1. The bill has no opponent

Scott Lundregan

Deputy Chief of Staff / Policy Director / Deputy Legal Counsel

House Republican Caucus

Ohio House of Representatives

614-466-1460



OHIO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Policy Department

Tuesday, March 20, 2018

Caucus 7:00 – 9:00 PM

Wednesday, March 21, 2018

Caucus 12:30 – 1:30 PM

Session: 1:30 PM

Bills for Third Consideration

- **House Bill 345** – Rep. Butler – Pending in Government Accountability and Oversight
 - *Award prizes for curing diseases*
- **House Bill 351** – Reps. Perales, Butler – Reported out of Ways and Means (17-0)
 - *Require municipalities to tax exempt pay of NOAA and PHS members*
- **House Bill 360** – Rep. Greenspan – Reported out of Education and Career Readiness (10-7, Hood)
 - *Enact Ohio Anti-Bullying and Hazing Act*
- **House Bill 392** – Rep. Stein – Reported out of Economic Development, Commerce, and Labor (13-2)
 - *Grant apiary owners immunity from certain torts*
- **House Bill 405** – Rep. Perales – Reported out of Criminal Justice (11-0)
 - *Make counterfeiting a corrupt activity crime*

- **House Bill 410** – Reps. Seitz, Butler – Reported out of Government Accountability and Oversight (8-4, Greenspan)
 - *Regulate civil enforcement scheme for traffic cameras*
- **House Bill 451** – Rep. Retherford – Reported out of Government Accountability and Oversight (12-0)
 - *Exclude depictions of crime victim's body from public records*
- **House Bill 481** – Reps. Greenspan, Fedor – Reported out of Transportation and Public Safety (12-0)
 - *Create Stop Bullying license plate*
- **House Bill 506** – Reps. Hill – Reported out of Government Accountability and Oversight (8-3)
 - *Revise law governing high volume dog breeders*
- **House Bill 190** – Reps. Lepore-Hagan, Schuring – Reported out of Transportation and Public Safety (15-0)
 - *Stop, watch, and listen for on-track equipment at rail crossings*
- **House Bill 343** – Rep. Merrin – Reported out of Ways and Means (12-5, Green)
 - *Regards how local governments are to contest property values*
- **Senate Bill 143** – Sen. Eklund – Reported out of Health (18-0)
 - *Designate International Ataxia Awareness Day*
- **Senate Bill 170** – Sen. LaRose – Reported out of Government Accountability and Oversight (10-0)
 - *Waive commercial driver test for military and veterans*
- **Senate Bill 226** – Sen. Bacon – Reported out of Ways and Means (20-1)
 - *Make sales tax holiday for clothes and school supplies permanent*

Snapshots

House Bill 345

As medical spending increases year after year, HB 345 seeks to promote research and development in a way that incentivizes innovation while containing cost. With the goal of finding cures, not just treatments, HB 345 creates the Solemn Covenant of the States, an interstate compact designed to award prizes for curing diseases.

The compact will create a Commission to review research, determine if a cure has been found, and award prizes. The Commission will choose diseases eligible for award and estimate public health expenses to treat those diseases. Prize money will be equal to the total 5-year savings in public health expenses in all the compacting states. The winner must transfer the patent and all related intellectual property for treatment to the Commission in exchange for the prize. The Commission can then make treatment widely available.

By pooling resources, states can drastically increase financial incentives for organizations that discover reliable and verifiable cures of major diseases with little risk to taxpayers.

Proponents of HB 345 include the Gala Hope Foundation, Ohio Pharmacists Association, Ohio Right to Life, and Pancreatic Cancer Action Network. The bill has no opponents. It was reported by the Health Committee 12-3 with Reps. Antani, Huffman, and Kick voting “no.”

The bill was re-referred to the Government Accountability and Oversight Committee to address the types of research that can be conducted under the Compact.

House Bill 351

In order to further support those that service our country, HB 351 exempts municipal income tax on earnings while members of the “uniformed services” are on active duty.

The “uniformed services” consist of the 5 members of the Armed Forces (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, including the guard and reserve components), the US Public Health Service, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The armed services already receive this exemption in Ohio, leaving the other two components of the uniformed services excluded.

The officers of the USPHS and NOAA are deployed in hazardous, emergency situations and can be militarized by the President when needed – this bill would ensure that they are granted the same tax treatment as the other members of the uniformed services.

HB 351 would have a negligible fiscal impact on municipalities, and the Ohio Municipal League is neutral on the bill. The bill was reported unanimously by the Ways and Means Committee.

House Bill 360

Ohio law requires public schools to adopt anti-bullying policies that prohibit “bullying, harassment, or intimidation” of another student, address disciplinary responses for violations, and set reporting requirements. HB 360 seeks to strengthen the anti-bullying statute, while providing schools with flexibility to address issues.

HB 360 allows schools to institute tiered suspensions based on the number of bullying incidents: the first offense would be up to 10 days suspension, the second would be up to 30 days, and the third would be up to 182 days. The school could also prohibit a bully from participating in extracurricular activities.

Additionally, the bill specifically permits a school to develop a community service plan for the bully and offer counseling and/or support for the bully and victim. HB 360 requires the State Board of Education to review best practices and requires state institutions of higher education to adopt policies regarding bullying and harassment.

Several changes were made to the bill in committee that focused on providing local school districts more flexibility and control over dealing with cases of bullying on an individual basis. The committee also accepted an amendment that exempted independent and private schools from the provisions of the bill.

HB 360 was reported by the Education and Career Readiness Committee 10-7 with Rep. Hood voting "no."

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From: Gongwer News Service

Sent: Friday, March 16, 2018 6:13 PM

To: Rep76

Subject: Ohio Report, Friday, March 16, 2018

Attachments: 180316dayplan.htm; Mar19Schedule.htm; 180316plan.htm; Mar16.htm

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OHIO REPORT FRIDAY, MARCH 16

Yost Renews Calls For Performance Audit Of JobsOhio, But No Legislation Has Surfaced

Parole Board Recommends Clemency For Convicted Killer

Panel Reviews Surveys On Adolescent Drug Use

Opioid Epidemic At Forefront In House District 59 Primary

Tax Expenditure Review Committee Set To Resume Meetings

Pennsylvania Special Election Results Reverberate In Ohio

**Antani Walks Back Gun Comments; Cordray Adds 14 County Party
Chairs To List Of Endorsers; COHHIO Calls For More Affordable Housing**

**Kasich Outlines Tariff Impact On Potential Ethane Cracker; Democrat
Targets Fracking On Public Lands...**

**Court Sides With School District In Tax Disputes; ACLU Calls On County
To Change Bail Policies; OSBA Announces Tech Partnership...**

**DSW's Fourth-Quarter Dividend Increases With Rising Sales; Big Lots,
Scripps, More Report Financial Results; Ohio Projects Ranked**

**Agency Briefs: State Spending 6% Below Estimates In February; Auditor;
AG; OEPA; IG; Labor Force; Governor; Lottery; ODNR; OSHP; SOS**

Supplemental Agency Calendar

CALENDARS

Day Planner

Legislative Committee Schedules

Event Planner

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Daily Activity Planner for Saturday, March 17- Monday, March 19

Legislative Committees

No legislative committees scheduled.

Agency Calendar

Monday, March 19

Lottery Commission, 4th Fl., 615 W. Superior Ave., Cleveland, 12 p.m.
Board of Deposit, 30 East Broad St., 9th Floor, Columbus, 1:45 p.m.

Event Planner

Monday, March 19

Sen. Sandra Williams (D-Cleveland) fundraiser, Crop Bistro & Bar, 2537 Lorain Ave., Cleveland, 5:30 p.m., (Gold: \$500, Silver: \$250, Bronze: \$100, Supporter: \$50 to Friends of Sandra Williams)

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Scott Miller, President | Kent Cahlander, Editor | Melissa Dilley, Mike Livingston, Dustin Ensinger,
Jon Reed, Staff Writers

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Legislative Committee Schedules beginning 3/19/2018

Tuesday, March 20

House Agriculture & Rural Development (Committee Record) (Chr. Hill, B., 644-6014), Rm. 116, 10 a.m.

- **Presentation on the Economic and Social Impact of Veterinary Medicine from the OSU College of Veterinary Medicine and the Ohio Veterinary Medical Association**

HB 501 **VETERINARY TITLES** (LaTourette, S., Huffman, S.) To change professional title of "registered veterinary technician" to "registered veterinary nurse." (3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)

HR 298 **ALFALFA PRODUCTS** (Sprague, R., Hill, B.) To recognize the existence of two alfalfa products in light of the recent action of the Ingredient Definition Committee of the Association of American Feed Control Officials. (3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)

House Finance (Committee Record) (Chr. Smith, R., 466-1366), Rm. 313, 10 a.m.

HB 378 **BROADBAND GRANTS** (Smith, R., Cera, J.) To create the Ohio Broadband Development Grant Program and to make an appropriation. (8th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments, substitute & vote)

HB 508 **OHIO CORPS** (Ryan, S., Reineke, B.) To establish the OhioCorps Pilot Project and to make an appropriation. (5th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments)

House Ways & Means (Committee Record) (Chr. Schaffer, T., 466-8100), Rm. 121, 10 a.m.

HB 458 **TAX NOTICES** (Lipps, S., Ryan, S.) To provide that, once the initial publication of a county delinquent property tax list is made in a newspaper of general circulation, the second publication of that list may be done online. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HB 317 **TAX DEDUCTION** (Young, R.) To authorize, for six years, a personal income tax deduction for a physician based on the number of hours the physician provides uncompensated medical services through a hospital, free clinic, or nongovernmental medical organization. (3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible substitute)

HB 333 **TAX RETURNS** (Becker, J., Leland, D.) To allow married couples to elect to file either separate state tax returns or a joint state return, irrespective of their federal filing status. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

HB 488 **TAX LEVIES** (Hood, R., Becker, J.) To modify the information conveyed in election notices and ballot language for property tax levies. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

Senate Judiciary (Committee Record) (Chr. Bacon, K., 466-8064), North Hearing Rm., 10:15 a.m.

SB 250 **CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE** (Hoagland, F.) To prohibit criminal mischief, criminal trespass, and aggravated trespass on a critical infrastructure facility, to impose fines for organizations that are complicit in those offenses, and to impose civil liability for damage caused by trespass on a critical infrastructure facility. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

- HB 276** **UTILITY WORKERS** (Rezabek, J., Greenspan, D.) To expand the offense of aggravated menacing to prohibit threatening a utility worker with intent to obstruct the operation of a utility. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- SB 63** **DELINQUENT CHILDREN** (Thomas, C.) To revise the procedures for determining the delinquent child confinement credit. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HB 341** **PUBLIC RECORDS** (Huffman, S., Cera, J.) To include judges as individuals whose residential and familial information is exempt from disclosure under the Public Records Law, and whose addresses public offices, upon request, must redact from records available to the general public on the internet. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- SB 214** **GENITAL MUTILATION** (Terhar, L., Lehner, P.) To prohibit female genital mutilation. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)
- House Government Accountability & Oversight (Committee Record) (Chr. Blessing, L., 466-9091), Rm. 114, 10:30 a.m.
- HB 382** **UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION** (Schuring, K.) To modify terms describing payments made under the Unemployment Compensation Law, to increase the amount of wages subject to unemployment compensation premiums, to require qualifying employees to make payments to the Unemployment Compensation Insurance Fund, to allow the Director of Job and Family Services to adjust maximum weekly benefit amounts, to reduce the maximum number of benefit weeks, and to make other changes to the Unemployment Compensation Law. (19th Hearing-All testimony)
- HJR 4** **UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION** (Schuring, K.) Proposing to enact Section 2t of Article VIII of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to allow the General Assembly to provide by law for the issuance of bonds to pay unemployment compensation benefits when the fund created for that purpose is or will be depleted or to repay outstanding advances made by the federal government to the unemployment compensation program. (19th Hearing-All testimony)
- HB 345** **DISEASE CURES** (Butler, J.) To adopt the Solemn Covenant of the States to award prizes for curing diseases. (1st Hearing-Possible amendments & vote)
- SB 21** **ELECTION PROCEDURES** (Uecker, J.) To reduce the minimum number of precinct election officials in a precinct in which electronic pollbooks are used and to eliminate the requirement that a board of elections send a notice to a person's residence address when the board cancels the person's voter registration because it received a report of the person's death. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HB 479** **DRUG PRICE INFORMATION** (Lipps, S., West, T.) Regarding pharmacy benefit managers, pharmacists, and the disclosure to patients of drug price information. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HB 406** **ADDRESS RECORDS** (Lanese, L.) To include forensic evaluation examiners and mental health evaluation providers as individuals whose residential and familial information is exempt from disclosure under the Public Records Law, and whose addresses public offices, upon request, must redact from records available to the general public on the internet. (3rd Hearing-All testimony)
- HB 495** **MARIJUANA PAYMENTS** (Seitz, B.) Relating to the closed-loop payment processing system under the medical marijuana control program. (4th Hearing-All testimony)

- HB 494** **FRANCHISE AGREEMENTS** (Antani, N.) To specify that a franchisor is not the employer of a franchisee or employee of a franchisee for purposes of the Minimum Fair Wage Standards Law, the Bimonthly Pay Law, the Workers' Compensation Law, the Unemployment Compensation Law, and the Income Tax Law. (3rd Hearing-All testimony)
- HB 469** **TAX CREDIT** (Schuring, K., Patton, T.) To authorize a nonrefundable insurance company tax credit for contributions of capital to transformational mixed use development projects. (5th Hearing-All testimony)
- HB 525** **TAX CREDIT** (Schuring, K.) To extend eligibility for the motion picture tax credit to certain live stage theater productions, to increase the maximum amount of credits that may be awarded from \$40 million to \$100 million per fiscal year, and to make other revisions to the law governing administration of the credit. (3rd Hearing-All testimony)
- HB 531** **SPORTS GRANTS** (Schuring, K., Greenspan, D.) To remove limitations on the amount of sports events grants that may be awarded in a fiscal year or for a specific grant, and to fund the grant program by diverting state sales tax receipts to a custodial fund administered by the Director of Development Services. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)
- House Rules & Reference (Committee Record) (Chr. Rosenberger, C., 466-3506), Rm. 119, 11:30 a.m.
House Education & Career Readiness (Committee Record) (Chr. Brenner, A., 644-6711), Rm. 121, 1 p.m.
- HB 477** **SCHOOL OPERATIONS** (Koehler, K.) To eliminate various provisions and programs related to the Department of Education and the operation of primary and secondary schools. (4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)
- HB 491** **EDUCATION LICENSE** (Edwards, J.) To require the State Board of Education to issue a substitute license to specified pupil services personnel. (4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)
- HB 377** **SEXUAL ABUSE** (Hagan, C., Ramos, D.) With respect to age-appropriate student instruction in child sexual abuse and sexual violence prevention and in-service staff training in child sexual abuse prevention. (4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)
- HB 540** **TEACHER EVALUATIONS** (Gavarone, T., Manning, N.) With regard to teacher evaluations. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HB 502** **YOUTH SUICIDE** (Anielski, M.) With regard to educator inservice training on youth suicide awareness and prevention in public schools. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)
- HB 503** **YOUTH SUICIDE** (Anielski, M.) With regard to educator inservice training on youth suicide awareness and prevention in private schools. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)
- House Economic Development, Commerce & Labor (Committee Record) (Chr. Young, R., 644-6074), Rm. 113, 1:30 p.m.
- HCR 24** **GOVERNMENT REGULATIONS** (Riedel, C., Holmes, G.) To urge Congress to propose the Regulation Freedom Amendment to the Constitution of the United States. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HB 164** **ROOFING CONTRACTORS** (Patton, T.) To require commercial roofing contractors to have a license. (4th Hearing-All testimony)

- HB 433** **VETERINARY EDUCATION** (Kelly, B., Brinkman, T.) To allow a licensed veterinarian to receive up to two continuing education credits per biennium for performing free spaying and neutering services. (3rd Hearing-All testimony)
- HB 504** **INTERIOR DESIGNERS** (Pelanda, D.) Regarding interior designers. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)
House Criminal Justice (Committee Record) (Chr. Manning, N., 644-5076), Rm. 114, 1:30 p.m.
- SB 66** **CRIMINAL LAWS** (Eklund, J., Tavares, C.) To modify criminal sentencing and corrections law by including rehabilitation as a purpose of felony sentencing, removing the one-year minimum for presumptive fourth or fifth degree felony community control sanctions, modifying sanctions for a violation of a community control condition, modifying the manner of calculating confinement credits, modifying eligibility criteria and procedures for granting intervention in lieu of conviction, making offenders convicted of certain multiple fourth or fifth degree felonies eligible for conviction record sealing, revising procedures for the Adult Parole Authority to grant a final release or terminate post-release control, and modifying the criteria for considering a prison term sanction for a post-release control violation. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HB 394** **MANDATORY BINDOVERS** (Rezabek, J.) To eliminate mandatory and reverse bindovers, and modify the procedures for discretionary bindovers, of an alleged juvenile offender from a juvenile court to a criminal court; to revise the procedures for determining the delinquent child confinement credit; to revise certain delinquent child financial sanction dispositions and procedures and establish a separate restitution disposition; and to provide special parole eligibility dates for persons with an indefinite or life sentence imposed for an offense other than aggravated murder or another crime involving the purposeful killing of multiple persons committed when the person was under age 18 and special Parole Board procedures in those cases. (2nd Hearing-Proponent-Possible amendments & substitute)
- SB 20** **FELONY SENTENCES** (Hackett, B.) To require an additional prison term of 3 to 8 years for an offender who is convicted of or pleads guilty to a felony offense of violence if the offender is convicted of or pleads guilty to a specification that the victim suffered permanent disabling harm. (2nd Hearing-Possible substitute)
- HB 30** **PRISON TERMS** (Koehler, K.) To require an additional prison term of 3 to 8 years for an offender who is convicted of or pleads guilty to a felony offense of violence if the offender is convicted of or pleads guilty to a specification that the victim suffered permanent disabling harm and that the victim was under 6 years of age at the time of the offense. (4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)
- HB 355** **SEXTING** (Hill, B., Rezabek, J.) To generally prohibit sexting by a person under 21 years of age. (3rd Hearing-All testimony)
- HB 439** **BAIL DETERMINATIONS** (Dever, J., Ginter, T.) To require courts to use the results of a validated risk assessment tool in bail determinations; to allow nonmonetary bail to be set; to require courts to collect certain data on bail, pretrial release, and sentencing; and to require the state Criminal Sentencing Commission to create a list of validated risk assessment tools and monitor the policies and procedures of courts in setting bail and utilizing pretrial supervision services. (3rd Hearing-All testimony)

House State & Local Government (Committee Record) (Chr. Anielski, M., 644-6041), Rm. 017, 2 p.m.

- HB 139** PUBLIC DISCLOSURE (Perales, R., Keller, C.) To eliminate the public disclosure exemption for any permanently retained record 100 years after the date of its creation. (6th Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)
- HB 484** HEALTH DISTRICTS (Brenner, A.) To authorize city and general health districts to use credit cards in accordance with prescribed requirements. (3rd Hearing-All testimony)
- HB 500** TOWNSHIP LAWS (Carfagna, R.) To make various changes to township law. (3rd Hearing-All testimony)
- HB 530** LODGING TAX (Hambley, S., Arndt, S.) To authorize local elected officers that have levied a hotel lodging excise tax, or a designee of such officers to simultaneously hold the position of officer or member of the board of trustees of a convention and visitors' bureau without constituting incompatible offices. (2nd Hearing-All testimony)
- HB 539** STATE DOG (Rezabek, J.) To designate the Labrador Retriever as the official state dog. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HB 543** COUNTY PROSECUTORS (Perales, R., Hambley, S.) To allow a county prosecuting attorney to enter into a contract with a regional airport authority, port authority, or regional planning commission to be its legal adviser. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- House Energy & Natural Resources (Committee Record) (Chr. Landis, A., 466-8035), Rm. 018, 2:30 p.m.

- HB 393** BRINE SALES (DeVitis, T., O'Brien, M.) To authorize a person to sell brine derived from an oil and gas operation that is processed as a commodity for use in surface application in deicing, dust suppression, and other applications. (5th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)
- HB 518** SPORTING LICENSURE (Dever, J., Cera, J.) To make changes to the laws governing hunting and fishing. (1st Hearing-Sponsor & proponent)
- HCR 22** ENERGY RESOURCES (Hill, B.) To express support for the importance of Ohio's energy resources and energy infrastructure in furthering Ohio's economic development. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- Senate Finance (Committee Record) (Chr. Oelslager, S., 466-0626), Finance Hearing Rm., 2:30 p.m.

- HB 353** UNCLAIMED FUNDS (Reineke, B.) To exempt certain open-loop prepaid cards, closed-loop prepaid cards, and rewards cards from the Unclaimed Funds Law. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HB 158** MILITARY TRANSFERS (Perales, R., Craig, H.) To permit persons who quit work to accompany the person's spouse on a military transfer to be eligible for unemployment compensation benefits. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)
- SB 135** VOTING EQUIPMENT (LaRose, F.) To make supplemental operating appropriations for the FY 2018-FY 2019 biennium and supplemental capital appropriations for the FY 2017-FY 2018 biennium to implement a voting machine and equipment acquisition program. (3rd Hearing-All testimony)
- SB 246** STUDENT REMOVAL (Lehner, P., Manning, G.) To enact the "SAFE Act" to revise the procedures for emergency removal of a student, to prohibit certain suspensions

and expulsions of students in grades pre- kindergarten through three, to require each public school to implement a positive behavior intervention and supports framework in accordance with state standards, and to make an appropriation. (3rd Hearing-All testimony)

House Public Utilities (Committee Record) (Chr. Cupp, R., 466-9624), Rm. 116, 3 p.m.

- Presentation from Dr. Joseph Bowring, Independent Market Monitor for PJM regarding competition and subsidies in PJM markets and the market monitoring activities of PJM.

HB 143 **ELECTRIC COMPANIES (Sprague, R.)** To clarify the definition of "electric distribution company" for kilowatt-hour tax purposes. (3rd Hearing-All testimony)

Wednesday, March 21

House Health (Committee Record) (Chr. Huffman, S., 466-8114), Rm. 121, 9 a.m.

HB 72 **STEP THERAPY (Johnson, T., Antonio, N.)** To adopt requirements related to step therapy protocols implemented by health plan issuers and the Department of Medicaid. (4th Hearing-Possible substitute)

HB 541 **VOLUNTEER HEALTH SERVICES (Patterson, J., LaTourette, S.)** To authorize health professionals licensed in other states to provide volunteer health services during charitable events. (1st Hearing-Sponsor-Possible substitute)

HB 231 **CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES (Ginter, T., Sprague, R.)** To require pharmacists to offer to dispense controlled substances in lockable or tamper-evident containers. (4th Hearing-Possible substitute)

HB 131 **PHYSICAL THERAPY (Gavarone, T., Reineke, B.)** To modify the laws governing the practice of physical therapy. (7th Hearing-All testimony-Possible substitute & vote)

HB 326 **PRESCRIBING AUTHORITY (Seitz, B., Gavarone, T.)** To authorize certain psychologists to prescribe psychotropic and other drugs for the treatment of drug addiction and mental illness. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HB 464 **STROKE PATIENTS (Lipps, S., Antonio, N.)** To provide for recognition of stroke centers and establishment of protocols for assessment, treatment, and transport to hospitals of stroke patients. (3rd Hearing-Opponent & intersted party-Possible amendments)

HB 456 **NURSING OVERTIME (Sprague, R.)** To prohibit a hospital from requiring a registered nurse or licensed practical nurse to work overtime as a condition of continued employment. (3rd Hearing-Opponent & intersted party-Possible substitute)

HB 485 **AWARENESS DAY (Antani, N.)** To enact "Cody's Law" to designate January 30 as "Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy Awareness Day." (2nd Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)

HB 557 **ART THERAPY (Anielski, M.)** To require the licensure of art therapists and to require the State Medical Board to regulate the licensure and practice of art therapists. (1st Hearing-Sponsor-Pending referral)

Senate Ways & Means (Committee Record) (Chr. Eklund, J., 644-7718), South Hearing Rm., 9 a.m.

HB 24 **VETERAN ORGANIZATIONS (Ginter, T.)** To modify the existing tax exemption for veterans organizations' property to include property of certain veterans organizations

exempt from federal taxation under section 501C(4) of the Internal Revenue Code and to exclude property that is not used primarily for meetings, administration, and the provision of programs and services to past and present members of the United States armed forces. (7th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vot)

HB 430

ENERGY TAX EXEMPTION (Schaffer, T.) To expand the scope of a sales and use tax exemption for certain kinds of property used in the production of oil and gas. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

SB 252

VISITORS BUREAUS (Peterson, B.) To authorize local elected officers that have levied a hotel lodging excise tax, or a designee of such officers to simultaneously hold the position of officer or member of the board of trustees of a convention and visitors' bureau without constituting incompatible offices. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

House Government Accountability & Oversight (Committee Record) (Chr. Blessing, L., 466-9091), Rm. 114, 9:30 a.m.

HB 382

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION (Schuring, K.) To modify terms describing payments made under the Unemployment Compensation Law, to increase the amount of wages subject to unemployment compensation premiums, to require qualifying employees to make payments to the Unemployment Compensation Insurance Fund, to allow the Director of Job and Family Services to adjust maximum weekly benefit amounts, to reduce the maximum number of benefit weeks, and to make other changes to the Unemployment Compensation Law. (20th Hearing-All testimony)

HJR 4

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION (Schuring, K.) Proposing to enact Section 2t of Article VIII of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to allow the General Assembly to provide by law for the issuance of bonds to pay unemployment compensation benefits when the fund created for that purpose is or will be depleted or to repay outstanding advances made by the federal government to the unemployment compensation program. (20th Hearing-All testimony)

HB 512

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT (Reineke, B.) To establish the Department of Learning and Achievement; to abolish the Department of Higher Education, the position of the Chancellor of Higher Education, and the Ohio Board of Regents; to transfer, with exceptions, the duties regarding the administration of primary and secondary education programs and all duties regarding the administration of higher education programs to the Department of Learning and Achievement; and to prescribe certain duties regarding educator licensure, community school sponsorship, and other education programs for the State Board of Education, Superintendent of Public Instruction, and Department of Education. (5th Hearing-Possible substitute)

HB 494

FRANCHISE AGREEMENTS (Antani, N.) To specify that a franchisor is not the employer of a franchisee or employee of a franchisee for purposes of the Minimum Fair Wage Standards Law, the Bimonthly Pay Law, the Workers' Compensation Law, the Unemployment Compensation Law, and the Income Tax Law. (4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

HB 525

TAX CREDIT (Schuring, K.) To extend eligibility for the motion picture tax credit to certain live stage theater productions, to increase the maximum amount of credits that may be awarded from \$40 million to \$100 million per fiscal year, and to make other

revisions to the law governing administration of the credit. (4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

HB 406 ADDRESS RECORDS (Lanese, L.) To include forensic evaluation examiners and mental health evaluation providers as individuals whose residential and familial information is exempt from disclosure under the Public Records Law, and whose addresses public offices, upon request, must redact from records available to the general public on the internet. (4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

HB 522 LIQUOR PERMITTING (Lanese, L.) To allow an outdoor refreshment area to include F liquor permit holders. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

Senate Government Oversight & Reform (Committee Record) (Chr. Coley, B., 466-8072), Finance Hearing Rm., 9:45 a.m.

SB 221 AGENCY RULEMAKING (Uecker, J.) To reform agency rule-making and legislative review thereof. (4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

SB 239 REGIONAL GOVERNMENT COUNCILS (Dolan, M.) To modify the law concerning regional councils of governments. (5th Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)

SB 255 OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING (McColley, R.) To establish a statewide policy on occupational regulation, to require standing committees of the General Assembly to periodically review occupational licensing boards regarding their sunset, and to require the Legislative Service Commission to perform assessments of occupational licensing bills and state regulation of occupations. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

HB 312 POLITICAL SUBDIVISION SPENDING (Schuring, K., Greenspan, D.) Regarding use of credit cards and debit cards by political subdivisions. (3rd Hearing-All testimony)

HB 338 SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS (Ginter, T.) Regarding medical examinations for school bus drivers. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

House Insurance (Committee Record) (Chr. Brinkman, T., 644-6886), Rm. 116, 10 a.m.

HB 536 EMERGENCY CARE (Reece, A.) To prohibit health plan issuers, including those participating in the Medicaid care management system, from implementing any form of selective emergency services coverage. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HB 99 PNEUMOCONIOSIS CLAIMS (Cera, J.) To modify workers' compensation benefit amounts for occupational pneumoconiosis claims and to create the Occupational Pneumoconiosis Board to determine medical findings for such claims. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

Senate Transportation, Commerce & Workforce (Committee Record) (Chr. LaRose, F., 466-4823), South Hearing Rm., 10:15 a.m.

HCR 10 ANTI-SEMITISM (Thompson, A., Greenspan, D.) To condemn the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions movement and increasing incidents of anti-Semitism. (3rd Hearing-Opponent)

HB 159 MONTH DESIGNATION (Riedel, C.) To designate May as "Drive Ohio Byways Month." (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

HB 250 **ELECTRIC BICYCLES (Brinkman, T.)** To establish requirements for the use of electric bicycles. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

HB 336 **LICENSE FEES (Barnes, J., Greenspan, D.)** To prohibit the imposition of driver's license and temporary instruction permit reinstatement fees in specified circumstances and to name this act the Reinstatement Fee Amnesty Initiative. (3rd Hearing-Opponent)

Senate Rules & Reference (Committee Record) (Chr. Obhof, L., 466-7505), Majority Conf. Rm., 11 a.m.
House Session (Committee Record) (Chr. Rosenberger, C., 466-3357), House Chamber, 1:30 p.m.
Senate Session (Committee Record) (Chr. Obhof, L., 466-4900), Senate Chamber, 1:30 p.m.
House Armed Services, Veterans Affairs & Homeland Security (Committee Record) (Chr. Johnson, T., 466-2124), Rm. 116, 2:30 p.m. or after session

SB 81 **FIREARMS (Terhar, L.)** To waive the concealed carry license fee for active members of the armed forces and retired and honorably discharged veterans, to accept military experience with firearms as proof of competency with firearms regardless of when the applicant for a license acquired the experience, to permit a licensee to renew a concealed handgun license at any time before the expiration of the license, and to require the Attorney General to monitor the number of license fees waived and cap the total amount allowed to be waived at \$1.5 million. (3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)

HB 192 **VETERAN COMMISSIONS (Miller, A., Anielski, M.)** To permit county veterans service commissions to elect to add two members to the commission, one who is a veteran who served in Operation Enduring Freedom or Operation Iraqi Freedom, or subsequently in those theaters of operation, and one who is a military spouse. (5th Hearing-All testimony-Possible substitute)

HB 468 **MILITARY LEAVE (Perales, R., Boyd, J.)** To grant full-time state employees paid leave for the purpose of attending medical examinations and appointments provided through the United States Department of Veterans Affairs. (3rd Hearing-All testimony)

Senate Energy & Natural Resources (Committee Record) (Chr. Balderson, T., 466-8076), Finance Hearing Rm., 2:30 p.m. or after session

- Confirmation hearing on governor's appointment of Sean Miller, State Emergency Response Commission

SB 257 **SPORTING LICENSURE (Uecker, J., O'Brien, S.)** To make changes to the laws governing hunting and fishing. (1st Hearing-Sponsor & proponent)

SB 165 **BRINE SALES (Dolan, M., Skindell, M.)** To establish conditions and requirements for the sale of brine from certain oil or gas operations as a commodity and to exempt such a commodity from requirements otherwise applicable to brine. (4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments)

HB 225 **OIL GAS WELLS (Thompson, A.)** To modify the law governing idle and orphaned oil and gas wells. (4th Hearing-Opponent & interested party-Possible amendments)

House Community & Family Advancement (Committee Record) (Chr. Ginter, T., 466-8022), Rm. 114, 3 p.m.

HB 535 **DRUG OVERDOSES (Gavarone, T.)** To require certain reports regarding overdoses and naloxone, to include naltrexone within the Ohio Automated Rx Reporting System,

and to name this act the "Opioid Data and Communication Expansion Act." (3rd Hearing-All testimony)

HB 515 **PARENTAL RIGHTS (Pelanda, D.)** Regarding child rehoming and nonjudicial grants of parental rights. (3rd Hearing-All testimony)

HB 511 **MARRIAGE AGE (Lanese, L., Rogers, J.)** To make changes to the laws governing the ages at which persons may marry. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

HB 420 **MONTH DESIGNATION (Sykes, E., Boyd, J.)** To designate the month of November as Ohio Adoption Awareness Month. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)
House Civil Justice (Committee Record) (Chr. Butler, J., 644-6008), Rm. 121, 3 p.m. or after session

HB 480 **MULTI-PARCEL AUCTIONS (Hill, B.)** To establish requirements governing multi-parcel auctions. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

Thursday, March 22

Senate Public Utilities (Committee Record) (Chr. Beagle, B., 466-6247), Finance Hearing Rm., 9 a.m.

HB 478 **WIRELESS SERVICES (Smith, R., LaTourette, S.)** To modify the law regarding wireless service and the placement of small cell wireless facilities in the public way.
(3rd Hearing-Opponent & interested party)

~~Canceled: Senate Rules & Reference (Committee Record) (Chr. Obhof, L., 466-7505), Majority Conf. Rm., 11 a.m.~~

- If needed

~~Canceled: House Session (Committee Record) (Chr. Rosenberger, C., 466-3357), House Chamber, 4 p.m.~~


- If needed

~~Canceled: Senate Session (Committee Record) (Chr. Obhof, L., 466-4900), Senate Chamber, 1:30 p.m.~~

- If needed

Monday, March 26

Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review (Committee Record) (Chr. Uecker, J., 644-6030), Senate Finance Hearing Rm., 1:30 p.m.

NOTE: Click bill or resolution number links to see the legislative history compiled by Gongwer News Service. Click the  after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill. Click "Full Text" if present to view the text of legislation on the Legislature's Web site.

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Event Planner

Monday, March 19

Sen. Sandra Williams (D-Cleveland) fundraiser, Crop Bistro & Bar, 2537 Lorain Ave., Cleveland, 5:30 p.m., (Gold: \$500, Silver: \$250, Bronze: \$100, Supporter: \$50 to Friends of Sandra Williams)

Tuesday, March 20

Phil Plummer (R-Candidate 40th House District) meet and greet, Condado, 132 S. High St., Columbus, 11:30 a.m., (Contributions appreciated but not expected. Plummer for Ohio)

Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP Legislative Reception, 52 East Gay Street, Columbus, 5 p.m.

Sen. Michael Skindell (D-Lakewood) fundraiser, Club 185, 185 E. Livingston Ave., Columbus, 5 p.m., (\$1,000, \$500 or \$350)

Rep. Mike Ashford (D-Toledo) fundraiser, Tony's Italian Ristorante, 16 W Beck Street, Columbus, 5 p.m., (Gold Sponsor \$1,500, Silver Sponsor \$1,000, Bronze Sponsor \$500, Individual \$50 to Citizens with Ashford)

Rep. Jim Hoops (R-Napoleon) fundraiser, Victory's, 547 S. High St., Columbus, 5 p.m., (Host: \$1,000; Sponsor: \$500; Chair: \$350 to Campaign to Elect James M. Hoops)

Sen. Bob Hackett (R-London) & Sen. Lou Terhar (R-Cincinnati) fundraiser, Athletic Club of Columbus - Gold, 136 E. Broad Street, Columbus, 5 p.m., (Sponsor: \$1,000 | Host: \$500 | Guest: \$350 to Hackett for Ohio and/or Friends of Lou Terhar)

Miami University Student Statehouse Reception, Museum Gallery, Statehouse, Columbus, 5 p.m.

Rep. Kristin Boggs (D-Columbus) fundraiser, Hadley's, 260 S. 4th St., Columbus, 5:30 p.m., (\$1,000, \$500, \$250 or \$100)

Wednesday, March 21

Sen. President Larry Obhof (R-Medina) fundraiser, Athletic Club of Columbus - Crystal, 136 E. Broad Street, Columbus, 7:30 a.m., (Sponsor: \$2,500 | Host: \$1,000 | Guest: \$500 to Citizens for Obhof)

Rep. Tim Ginter (R-Salem) and Rep. Bill Reineke (R-Tiffin) fundraiser, The Athletic Club, 136 E. Broad St., Columbus, 8 a.m., (Sponsor: \$1,000; Host: \$500; Chair: \$350 to Tim Ginter for State Representative and Friends of Bill Reineke)

Rep. Emilia Sykes (D-Akron) & Rep. Brigid Kelly (D-Cincinnati) fundraiser, Einstein Bros Bagels, 41 S. High Street, Columbus, 8 a.m., (Sponsor levels: Sponsor \$1,000, Host \$500, Friend \$350 to Emilia Sykes Campaign, Friends of Brigid Kelly. RSVP with Amy Katrak at 614-420-1269 or akatrak@ohiodems.org)

Miami University President Greg Crawford news conference on the announcement of the \$50 million Boldly Creative initiative, StatEROOM, Statehouse, 11 a.m.

Rep. Scott Lipps (R-Franklin) fundraiser, Due Amici, 67 E. Gay St., Columbus, 11:30 a.m., (Sponsor:\$1000; Host: \$500; Chair: \$350 to Friends of Scott Lipps)
Buckeye Institute luncheon with American Enterprise Institute President Arthur Brooks, Athletic Club Of Columbus, 136 E. Broad St., Columbus, 12 p.m., (For more information and to register visit the Institute's website at

<https://www.buckeyeinstitute.org/events>)

Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber Southwest Ohio Advocacy Day reception, Athletic Club, Crystal Rm., 136 E. Broad St., Columbus, 3:30 p.m.

Ohio Bankers League Legislative Reception, Athletic Club of Columbus, Bowling Alley, 136 E. Broad St., Columbus, 4 p.m.

Sen. Minority Leader Kenny Yuko (D-Richmond Hts.) fundraiser, Milestone 229, 229 Civic Center Drive, Columbus, 5 p.m., (\$2,500, \$1,000 or \$500)

Rep. Bob Cupp (R-Lima) and Rep. Dick Stein (R-Norwalk) fundraiser, The Buckeye Bourdon House, 36 E. Gay St., Columbus, 5 p.m., (Host: \$1000; Sponsor: \$500;

Patron: \$350 to Stein for State Representative and Cupp for State Representative)

Rep. Tavia Galonski (D-Akron) & Rep. Catherine Ingram (D-Cincinnati) fundraiser, Westies Gastropub, 940 S. Front Street, Columbus, 5:30 p.m., (Sponsor \$1,000, Host \$500, Friend \$250 to Friends of Tavia Galonski and Ingram for the People.

RSVP with Jenna Gravalis at 551-427-9895 or jgravalis@ohiodems.org)

Sen. Kevin Bacon (R-Candidate 12th Congressional District) fundraiser, Old Bag of Nails-Pour House Tavern, 57 Mill St., Gahanna, 6 p.m., (Host Committee: \$1,000; Patron: \$500; \$150 per couple; \$100 per person to Bacon for Congress)

Thursday, March 22

YMCA Youth & Government High School State Assembly 1, Statehouse, Columbus

Bud O'Brien (R-Candidate 80th House District) fundraiser, The Athletic Club, 136 E. Broad St., Columbus, 8 a.m., (Sponsor: \$500; Host: \$350; Chair: \$250 to Friends of John O'Brien)

Sen. Kevin Bacon (R-Candidate 12th Congressional District) fundraiser, The Lakes Golf & Country Club, 6740 Worthington Rd., Westerville, 5:30 p.m., (Host Committee: \$1,000; Patron: \$500; \$150 per couple; \$100 per person to Bacon for Congress)

Friday, March 23

YMCA Youth & Government High School State Assembly 1, Statehouse, Columbus

Saturday, March 24

YMCA Youth & Government High School State Assembly 1, Statehouse, Columbus

Tuesday, April 10

Rep. Dave Greenspan (R-Westlake) fundraiser, Due Amici, 67 E. Gay St., Columbus, 11:30 a.m., (Host: \$1,000; Sponsor: \$750; Chair: \$500 to Friends of Dave Greenspan)
Rep. Janine Boyd (D-Cleveland Hts.) & Rep. Stephanie Howse (D-Cleveland) fundraiser, The Goat, 219 S. High Street, Columbus, 4:30 p.m., (Sponsor Levels: Sponsor \$1000, Host \$500, Friend \$350 to Friends of Janine Boyd and Friends of Stephanie Howse)
Miami University College Republicans alumni reception, Capital Club, 41 S. High St., Columbus, 5 p.m.
Rep. Riordan McClain (R-Upper Sandusky) fundraiser, The Athletic Club, 136 E. Broad St., Columbus, 5 p.m., (Host: \$1000; Sponsor: \$500; Chair: \$350 to McClain for Ohio)
Ohio Senate Democratic Caucus fundraiser, Condado Tacos, 132 S. High St., Columbus, 5 p.m., (\$1,000, \$500 or \$350)
Sen. Gayle Manning (R-N. Ridgeville) & Sen. Stephanie Kunze (R-Hilliard) fundraiser, Buckeye Bourbon House, 36 E. Gay Street, Columbus, 5 p.m., (Sponsor: \$1,000 | Host: \$500 | Guest: \$350 to Committee to Elect Gayle Manning and/or Citizens for Stephanie Kunze)
Ohio Association of Realtors legislative reception, Statehouse Atrium, Columbus, 5:15 p.m.

Wednesday, April 11

Rep. Bernadine Kent (D-Columbus) fundraiser, Einstein Bros. Bagels, 41 S. High Street, Columbus, 8 a.m., (Sponsor \$1,000, Host \$500, Friend \$250 to Kent for Ohio. RSVP with Jenna Gravalis at 551-427-9895 or jgravalis@ohiodems.org)
Rep. Craig Riedel (R-Defiance) and Rep. Kristina Roegner (R-Hudson) fundraiser, Condado, 132 S. High St., Columbus, 11:30 a.m., (Sponsor: \$1,000; Host: \$500; Chair: \$350 to Citizens to Elect Craig Riedel and Kristina Daley Roegner for Ohio)
Sen. Vernon Sykes (D-Akron) fundraiser, Capital Club, 41 S. High St., Columbus, 5 p.m., (\$1,000; \$500; \$350)
Sen. Bob Peterson (R-Sabina) & Sen. Steve Wilson (R-Maineville) fundraiser, Athletic Club of Columbus - Lounge, 136 E. Broad Street, Columbus, 5 p.m., (Sponsor: \$1,000 | Host: \$500 | Guest: \$350 to Peterson for Good Government and/or Steve Wilson for Ohio)
Rep. Steve Hambley (R-Brunswick) and Rep. Rick Perales (R-Beavercreek) fundraiser, The Buckeye Bourdon House, 36 E. Gay St., Columbus, 5 p.m., (Sponsor: \$1,000; Host: \$500; Chair: \$350 to Hambley for House Committee and Citizens for Perales)

Thursday, April 12

Rep. Kirk Schuring (R-Canton) fundraiser, Due Amici, 67 E. Gay St., Columbus, 11:30 a.m., (Sponsor: \$2,500; Host: \$1,000; Chair: \$500 to Friends for Schuring Committee)

Friday, April 13

Ohio Democratic Party Legacy Dinner, Hyatt Regency Columbus, 350 N. High St., Columbus, (Keynote speaker: Former Attorney General Eric Holder)

Tuesday, April 17

Rep. Bill Seitz (R-Cincinnati) fundraiser, The Athletic Club 136 E. Broad St., Columbus, 5 p.m., (Gold: \$2,000; Silver: \$1,000; Bronze: \$500 to Seitz for Ohio)
Sen. Scott Oelslager (R-N. Canton) & Sen. Frank Hoagland (R-Adena) fundraiser, Athletic Club of Columbus - 136 E. Broad Street, Columbus, 5 p.m., (Checks to Oelslager for Ohio Committee and/or Hoagland for Ohio)

Wednesday, April 18

Ohio University State Government Alumni Luncheon, Athletic Club, 136 E. Broad St., Columbus, 11:30 a.m., (Social: 11:30 am; Luncheon: 12 pm)
Ohio Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting & Legislative Reception, Sheridan Capitol Square, 75 E. State St., Columbus, 3:30 p.m., (3:30 Annual Meeting; 5:30 Legislative Reception)
Sen. Jay Hottinger (R-Newark) & Sen. Matt Dolan (R-Chagrin Falls) fundraiser, Pins, 141 N. 4th Street, Columbus, 5 p.m., (Sponsor: \$1,000 | Host: \$500 | Guest: \$350 to Citizens for Hottinger and/or Friends of Matt Dolan)

Thursday, April 19

YMCA Youth & Government High School State Assembly 2, Statehouse, Columbus
YMCA Youth & Government 5th Annual Statehouse Family Feud, Renaissance Hotel Columbus, 50 N. Third St., Columbus, 11:45 a.m.

Friday, April 20

YMCA Youth & Government High School State Assembly 2, Statehouse, Columbus

Saturday, April 21

YMCA Youth & Government High School State Assembly 2, Statehouse, Columbus

Tuesday, April 24

OAHU Annual Day at the Statehouse, Sheraton Columbus Hotel at Capitol Square, 75 East State Street, Columbus
Rep. Andy Brenner (R-Powell) fundraiser, Athletic Club of Columbus - Parlor A/B, 136 E. Broad Street, Columbus, 11:30 a.m., (Sponsor: \$1,000 | Host: \$500 | Guest: \$350 to Brenner for Ohio)
Sen. Matt Huffman (R-Lima) & Sen. John Eklund (R-Chardon) fundraiser, Pins, 141 N. 4th Street, Columbus, 5 p.m., (Sponsor: \$1,000 | Host: \$500 | Guest: \$350 to Matt Huffman for Ohio and/or Friends of John Eklund)

House Speaker Cliff Rosenberger (R-Clarksville) fundraiser, Club 185, 185 E. Livingston Ave., Columbus, 5 p.m., (Chair: \$3,700; Sponsor: \$1,370 to Committee to Elect Cliff Rosenberger)

Ohio Chemistry Technology Council's 30th Annual Legislative Reception, Renaissance Columbus Downtown Hotel, 50 North Third Street, Columbus, 5:30 p.m.

Ohio Aggregates and Industrial Minerals Association 20th Annual Legislative Reception, Statehouse Atrium, Columbus, 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, May 1

Lobbyists/Employers can begin filing January-April 2018 Activity & Expenditure Reports

Tuesday, May 8

Primary election day

Thursday, May 10

YMCA Youth & Government Model United Nations, Statehouse, Columbus

Friday, May 11

YMCA Youth & Government Model United Nations, Statehouse, Columbus

Saturday, May 12

YMCA Youth & Government Model United Nations, Statehouse, Columbus

Tuesday, May 15

Deadline for most public officials and employees to file personal financial disclosure statements.

Ohio Association of Health Plans Annual Legislative Reception, Statehouse Rotunda, Columbus, 5 p.m., (Please RSVP to Stacy Bewley at sbewley@oahp.org or for any questions call (614) 228-4662.)

Rep. John Rogers (D-Mentor-on-the-Lake) & Rep. John Patterson (D-Jefferson) fundraiser, Club 185, 185 E. Livingston Ave., Columbus, 5:30 p.m., (Sponsor Levels: Sponsor \$1,000, Host \$500, Friend \$350 to Friends of Rogers and Committee to Elect John Patterson. RSVP with Jenna Gravalis at 551-429-9895 or jgravalis@ohiodems.org)

Wednesday, May 16

Ohio Auctioneers Association legislative day

Rep. Michele Lepore-Hagan (D-Youngstown) fundraiser, Einstein Bros. Bagels, 41 S. High Street, Columbus, 8 a.m., (Sponsor \$1,000, Host \$500, Friend \$350 to Michele Lepore-Hagan for State Representative)

2018 Arts Day & Governor's Awards for the Arts in Ohio Luncheon, The Columbus Athenaeum, 32 North Fourth Street, Columbus, 12 p.m.

Tuesday, May 22

Ohio Cable Telecommunications Association Legislative Reception & Technology Demo, 77 S. High St., Capitol Theater Lobby, Columbus, 5 p.m.

Wednesday, May 23

Rep. Kent Smith (D-Euclid) fundraiser, Einstein Bros. Bagels, 41 S. High Street, Columbus, 8 a.m., (Sponsor \$1,000, Host \$500, Friend \$350 to Kent Smith Committee)

Thursday, May 24

Rep. Rick Perales (R-Beavercreek) golf outing fundraiser

Thursday, May 31

JLEC Deadline for filing January-April 2018 Activity & Expenditure Reports

Friday, June 1

Sen. Gayle Manning (R-N. Ridgeville) & Rep. Nathan Manning (R-N. Ridgeville) golf outing fundraiser

Monday, June 4

Sen. Bob Peterson (R-Sabina) golf outing fundraiser

Friday, June 8

House Speaker Cliff Rosenberger (R-Clarksville) golf outing fundraiser

Monday, June 11

Rep. Scott Ryan (R-Newark) golf outing fundraiser

Monday, June 18

Sen. President Larry Obhof (R-Medina) golf outing fundraiser

Monday, June 25

**Ohio Cable Telecommunications Association Golf Outing, The Lakes, 6740 Worthington Rd., Westerville
Rep. Brian Hill (R-Zanesville) golf outing fundraiser**

Monday, July 16

Rep. Bill Reineke (R-Tiffin) golf outing fundraiser

Thursday, July 19

Sen. Matt Dolan (R-Chagrin Falls) Batter Up fundraiser

Friday, July 20

Rep. Tom Patton (R-Strongsville) golf outing fundraiser

Sunday, July 22

YMCA Youth & Government Leaders Training School, Statehouse, Columbus

Monday, July 23

YMCA Youth & Government Leaders Training School, Statehouse, Columbus

Tuesday, July 24

YMCA Youth & Government Leaders Training School, Statehouse, Columbus

Wednesday, July 25

YMCA Youth & Government Leaders Training School, Statehouse, Columbus

Sen. Rob McColley (R-Napoleon) golf outing fundraiser

Thursday, July 26

YMCA Youth & Government Leaders Training School, Statehouse, Columbus

Friday, July 27

YMCA Youth & Government Leaders Training School, Statehouse, Columbus

Tuesday, August 7

Special election for 12th Congressional District seat

Thursday, August 16

Sen. Bob Hackett (R-London) golf outing fundraiser

Monday, August 20

Rep. Laura Lanese (R-Grove City) golf outing fundraiser

Saturday, September 1

Lobbyists/Employers can begin filing May-August 2018 Activity & Expenditure Reports

Monday, October 1

JLEC Deadline for filing May-August 2018 Activity & Expenditure Report

Tuesday, November 6

General election day

Saturday, December 1

Lobbyists can begin renewing Legislative, Executive and Retirement System registrations for 2019

Monday, December 31

All 2018 Legislative, Executive and Retirement System lobbying registrations expire in OLAC

All 2018 Legislative, Executive and Retirement System lobbying registrations expire in OLAC

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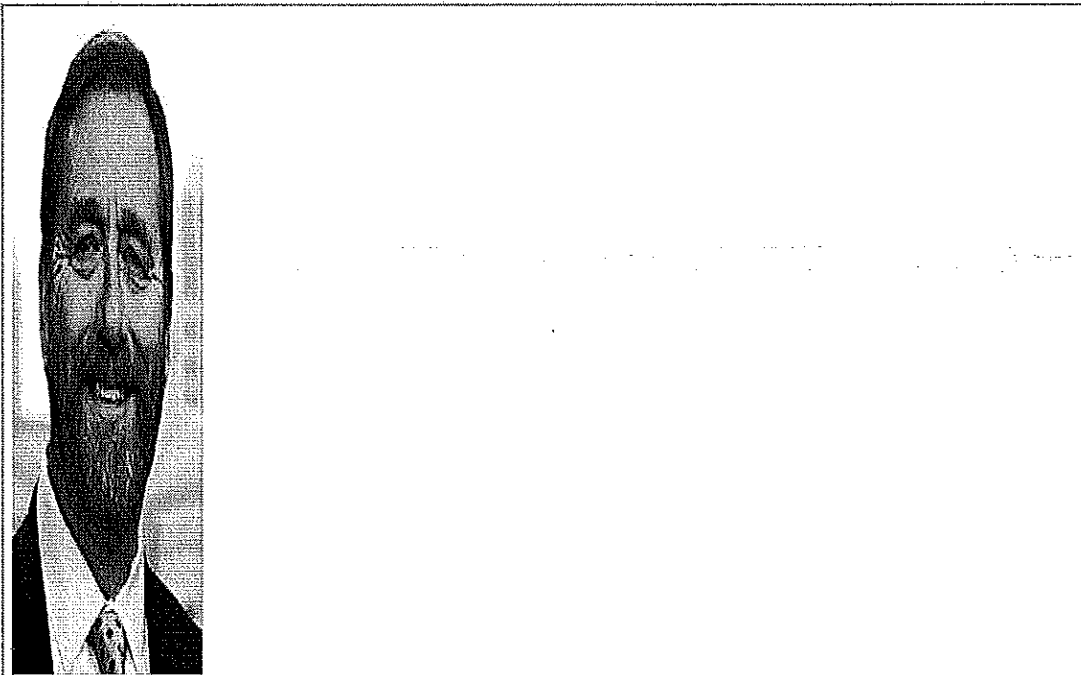
Volume #87, Report #52 -- Friday, March 16, 2018

Yost Renews Calls For Performance Audit Of JobsOhio, But No Legislation Has Surfaced

State Auditor Dave Yost said in January that a performance audit of JobsOhio would likely find that the entity has done "pretty well."

Given the state's recent job creation numbers, he has since changed his tune.

Last weekend, Auditor Yost took to Twitter to respond to recent jobs data that further illustrated Ohio has not kept up with the rest of the nation's economic recovery. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, March 9, 2018)



Dave Yost

"I've asked the General Assembly for authority to do a performance audit of JobsOhio," he tweeted.

"These numbers leave no room for inaction," the candidate for attorney general added. "None."

In light of the jobs numbers, which he described as "anemic," he said in an interview of his January comments: "I think that has to be revised in light of more recent data."

Mr. Yost was among the more vocal GOP skeptics of JobsOhio when it was created at the urging of Gov. John Kasich in 2011. He fought to no avail with the GOP-led General Assembly for auditing authority over the privatized development entity, which was provided hundreds of millions in funding under a complex lease transaction that funneled state liquor profits to the group.

While his previous efforts to conduct a financial audit on JobsOhio were blocked by lawmakers, Auditor Yost said members of the General Assembly have been more receptive to a performance audit.

"They get the value of having objective, reliable data," he said. "I think there's a lot of interest in it."

Nevertheless, no member of the GOP majority in either chamber has yet stepped forward with a legislative proposal. Yost spokesman Ben Marrison said a potential sponsor has yet to be identified.

John Fortney, spokesman for Senate President Larry Obhof (R-Medina), said "members will need to have a thorough and deliberative discussion about that."

"President Obhof is generally supportive of the idea, but it's a challenging issue since it deals with a partially private organization," he said in an email.

House Republican leadership delivered a similar message through spokeswoman Carolyn Best.

"The speaker appreciates the auditor for bringing this issue forward and if legislation is introduced on this topic, the caucus will have the opportunity to discuss what further action, if any, is needed," she said.

Auditor Yost said a performance audit would compare the effectiveness of JobsOhio to similar organizations in other states. Such comparisons, he said, would be "in the same weight class."

For instance, he said, California would not be an apt comparison. "We don't have Hollywood, beaches and sunshine 280 days a year," Auditor Yost quipped.

Given that a new administration will be taking office in January, Mr. Yost said now is the time to conduct the audit.

"This is the ideal time to get an objective look and see if there are things that need tweaked," he said. "I've always felt that the public ought to have a seat at the table and I've never changed that view."

Jim Boland, chairman of the JobsOhio board and its audit committee, said the organization is currently undergoing a performance evaluation.

"While JobsOhio is a private nonprofit corporation with wholly private funding, we will share the performance review results with the public," he said in a statement.

"The board has engaged McKinsey & Company, an independent internationally respected firm with significant experience and expertise in economic development and performance evaluations. McKinsey is the most capable and most credible firm to do this evaluation. We look forward to the results of their work."

Gov. Kasich continues to be a strong supporter of keeping the entity as private as possible and has also pointed to statistics provided by JobsOhio as evidence the setup is working well for the state.

JobsOhio issues an annual report and monthly updates of incentives provided to attract and retain jobs, but it has proven difficult to directly compare the entity's performance with that of the former Department of Development.

Critics of Ohio's economic efforts in general also point to state and federal statistics showing that job growth has lagged that of the nation for some time. The most recent federal employment report showed 313,000 job gains for the U.S. in February alone. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, March 9, 2017) Revised data from the state indicates Ohio added 32,200 jobs in all of 2017.

Last week, the *Columbus Dispatch* reported job growth under Gov. Kasich in the past two years slowed to levels lower than the final two years of former Gov. Ted Strickland's administration.

Speaking after a Statehouse event, Gov. Kasich, however, called the report "fake news."

"The point is the trend lines," he said. "It's the trend lines of the state. When I came in...the fact is we were down 350,000 jobs and now we're up over half a million. That's a trend you want to keep and the diversification of the types of jobs, our wages are going up faster than the national average."

The Department of Job and Family Services subsequently updated figures used by the newspaper in its original report, with the agency explaining that the original data left out a month's worth of job creation figures. Nevertheless, the new numbers still showed the weakest job growth since 2009, the *Dispatch* reported.

Parole Board Recommends Clemency For Convicted Killer

The Parole Board in a rare move recommended Friday that Gov. John Kasich spare the life of a convicted killer.

In a 6-4 vote, the board recommended clemency for William Montgomery, who is scheduled to be executed April 11 for the 1986 murders of Debra Ogle and Cynthia Tinscher in Toledo. The board recommended his sentence be reduced to life without the possibility of parole.

Jon Oebker, the attorney representing the 52-year-old argued that there is too much doubt surrounding Mr. Montgomery's conviction, citing the prosecution's failure to provide the defense with a police report that called into question the state's timeline and later led a federal court to order a new trial.

Mr. Oebker raised several other issues in the March 8 hearing, including credibility issues with Mr. Montgomery's co-defendant, Glover Heard, who offered five different accounts of the murders. Two jurors have since questioned the verdict and two forensic scientists have also questioned the state's timeline. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, March 7, 2018)

The six board members who voted to recommend clemency specifically cited the state's failure to disclose the police report and the jurors who have come forward to raise doubts about the conviction.

"The failure to disclose that report coupled with the issues described above relative to Montgomery's jurors raise a substantial question as to whether Montgomery's death sentence was imposed through the kind of just and credible process that a punishment of this magnitude requires," they wrote.

The four board members who voted against the recommendation, however, noted that Mr. Montgomery was adjudicated as a juvenile for manslaughter and the Sixth Circuit Court of appeals in an en banc hearing reversed the lower court's ruling on a new trial.

"We are pleased the majority of the parole board recognizes the inherent unfairness of Mr. Montgomery's trial. We now have six parole board members, six federal judges, and two jurors who agree this is not the case where execution should be the outcome," Mr. Oebker and attorney John Lewis said in a statement.

"We pray that Gov. Kasich provides the relief to Mr. Montgomery so he may pursue a fair trial that is free of gross prosecutorial misconduct where all the evidence is considered, not just what prosecutors think is worthy of consideration. We also keep the Tinscher and Ogle families in our thoughts today."

At about the same time the board's recommendation was released, Ohioans to Stop Executions delivered more than 34,000 petition signatures to Gov. Kasich calling on him to grant Mr. Montgomery a reprieve.

"We hold the Tinscher and Ogle families in our thoughts and prayers at this time," Executive Director Kevin Werner said in a statement. "From day one, there has been too much doubt in this case. When execution is the outcome, there must be absolute certainty and this case is anything but."

Added Ohio death row exoneree Kwame Ajamu, chairman of Witness to Innocence: "This is the first batch of signatures we'll deliver; we expect lots more in the coming days."

Panel Reviews Surveys On Adolescent Drug Use

The prevalence of tobacco and alcohol use among adolescents nationwide and in Ohio has generally declined over the last 20 years, while marijuana use has remained mostly the same.

Those trends were discussed Friday by members of the Attorney General's Joint Study Committee on Drug Use Prevention Education. They were highlighted by researchers who gave presentations about national and state-based surveys of drug use among adolescents, which found alcohol and tobacco use has steadily declined since about 2000.

Dr. Richard Miech of the University of Michigan detailed the results of the Monitoring the Future study of drug trends, which has surveyed schools nationwide for decades.

Levels of cigarette and alcohol use have dropped steadily, he said, but marijuana use has remained relatively steady despite changes in the perceived risk among students. Ohio data tends to be similar to national results in these studies, he said.

"Marijuana is different," he said. "Despite the fact that the most common drugs of alcohol and tobacco are declining substantially, we don't find that for marijuana use. Marijuana has been pretty much steady."

Generally, the use of marijuana tends to increase as the risk perceived by adolescents increases, Dr. Miech said. That trend has tapered off in the past few years, which he attributed to a decrease in the number of adolescents smoking tobacco, as students who have used tobacco are much more likely to use marijuana than those who haven't.

Dr. Miech said the studies have generally found no increase in adolescent marijuana use in states that legalized the drug for medical purposes, and the data on states that have done so for recreational purposes are still limited.

The main reason for a potential increase in marijuana use in places that legalize the drug stems not from an increase in availability - most adolescents in the survey have for decades said it is readily available - but in a decrease in the perceived risk, he said. The effect of legalization might also not be limited to the states that do so.

"Medical marijuana states do have higher levels of marijuana use, but that was pre-existing," he said.

One behavior that has seen a dramatic increase in recent years is in vaping, or the use of e-cigarettes, Dr. Miech said. From 2013 to 2014 alone, e-cigarette use among adolescents tripled. The usage is also linked to future experimentation in smoking.

Regarding state data, Sara Haig, a public health consultant at the Ohio Department of Health, detailed the Ohio Youth Risk Behavior Survey, which has examined dangerous behaviors such as drug use among Ohio students since 1993.

The survey's results through 2013 on alcohol, tobacco and marijuana have generally aligned with national data, Ms. Haig said. One problem has been with data collection. The survey is done according to standards set by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and schools have grown less willing to participate in the program.

The lack of participation means there isn't weighted state data for 2015 and 2017, Ms. Haig said.

Molly Stone, prevention bureau chief at the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, suggested different stakeholders, such as ODH and the Department of Education, work to develop a statewide survey to cut down on the myriad surveys schools give to students or are asked to give to students over the course of the year.

Cheri Walter, CEO of the Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities, said parents often grow more resistant to surveys the more often they are given.

"I think the more we can coordinate across state agencies and county agencies and reduce the number, I think the less pushback we'll actually get," she said.

Opioid Epidemic At Forefront In House District 59 Primary

The CEO of a non-profit healthcare organization and a longtime educator say their respective frontline experience with the opioid epidemic is a major driver in their quest for the 59th House District seat.

Larry Moliterno, CEO of Meridian Healthcare, and Eric Ungaro, a longtime educator and union member, are battling for the Democratic nomination in the district which encompasses the bulk of Mahoning County.

Incumbent Rep. John Boccieri (D-Alliance) has foregone another term in favor of mounting a bid for the 33rd Senate District. The winner of the House primary will likely face Republican Don Manning come November.

Mr. Moliterno, 55, has spent 14 years in the top post at Meridian, an integrated healthcare program offering services in the fields of mental health, addiction, primary care, and housing for the homeless.

He's in his third term as a trustee for Boardman Township, where he said he's helped right a local government that was weeks away from fiscal emergency when he assumed office.

"Ten, twelve years ago...everyone was telling (my children) in order for them to be happy, in order for them to have the quality of life they wanted, they had to move out of Youngstown," Mr. Moliterno said. "That's why I got involved. It's really easy for people to stand on the sidelines and talk about how terrible things are, but it takes a lot more for people to jump in, get your feet wet, and start trying to make change."

Mr. Ungaro, 48, has been a Poland Township trustee since 2012 and has spent decades in education working with behaviorally challenged students. He first spent for 10 years with Youngstown City School before moving to Howland High School where he still teaches and coaches football.

He's a 28-year member of the teachers union and was elected as a representative for the Ohio Education Association. He chairs his local joint fire district and learned the finer points of public service from his father, Patrick, who served as Youngstown mayor from 1984-1997.

"My issues are real-life issues," he said. "I'm not just talking off a Power Point or some kind of bullet point the Democratic Party's telling you to say. I'm living it."

Both men list their experience witnessing the opioid epidemic first hand as a motivator.

Mr. Ungaro said he lost a brother and two uncles to their addiction, after which he and his family worked to break down the stigma attached to addiction.

"We started some organizations, some grief groups, some family outreach groups, and we were really the first ones to start talking about the opioid situations because five years ago it wasn't cool to talk about it," he said. "They were still considered junkies and drug addicts. We've come a long way."

He said his township was one of the first to begin carrying Narcan and take initiatives to break down the stigma of addiction - both steps he would seek to expand at the state level. He's currently treasurer of the Mahoning County Mental Health and Recovery Board.

"We've consolidated the mental health and the recovery side, and made a lot of good strides and we did it very smoothly," he said. "My (experience) is more on the grassroots side, trying to help these families and give them the confidence to move on."

Mr. Ungaro said he'd push for more behavioral health support in schools to spread the burden currently shouldered by teachers and counselors, and take steps to strengthen the continuum of care.

From his position leading Meridian, meanwhile, Mr. Moliterno said he's seen the impact the organization's addiction and mental health services have had on the community as the opioid epidemic has grown more severe.

"More and more people are accessing treatment in record numbers," Mr. Moliterno said. "Our organization had 10 years ago 100 people on our program for opiate addiction. We now have over 1,200 and these are people doing very well. They're going back to work. They're reuniting with their families."

Ensuring immediate access to treatment and ongoing support, boosting school prevention programs, and strengthening relationships within the criminal justice program are key in pushing back the opioid tide, he said.

Regarding his time as a trustee, the candidate said he authored the township's first strategic plan and has focused on emphasizing projects in conjunction with other communities. Those included collaborations on joint paving, unifying dispatch services, and boosting the availability of Narcan throughout the county via Meridian.

He's worked with lawmakers on opioids and other issues, which he said will give him a head start in acclimating to the Statehouse, Mr. Moliterno said. He has testified in the past on behalf of the Ohio Township Association, and through his capacity in the healthcare arena.

"With both my day job and my job as trustee I have been in Columbus working with legislators for years," he said. "Everything I've done in my life and professionally has really prepared me for this now."

Other priorities for Mr. Moliterno include: prioritizing the redevelopment of property, including new investment incentives; installing more protections for the elderly and veterans; and ensuring a level playing field between public and private schools.

Other priorities for Mr. Ungaro include a continued focus on workforce initiatives, and more investment in credit recovery opportunities. He also said he wants to ensure public and private schools are operating on a level playing field.

"Public education is one of the biggest parts of the budget," he said. "In being a public ed teacher all these years and seeing what's going on with the unions and the fair share laws that could be coming down, you've got to be ready to stand strong and understand it from the inside out."

In addition to coaching, Mr. Ungaro enjoys spending time with his wife of 22 years and their two teenaged children.

Mr. Moliterno, who has been married to his wife for 30 years, has two adult children and enjoys cooking despite, as he joked, its adverse impact on his waistline.

Subscribers Note: This story is part of a series focusing on key primary races for Ohio legislative seats. See *Gongwer's Election Page* for more information on 2018 contests, including our Key Races.

Tax Expenditure Review Committee Set To Resume Meetings

Tax expenditures related to tangible personal property and sales to churches and state entities are among those expected to be reviewed by the Tax Expenditure Review Committee during its next meeting.

Sen. Scott Oelslager (R-N. Canton), chairman of the group, on Friday announced the upcoming meeting schedule for the committee formed last session (HB9, 131st General Assembly) to review all current expenditures.

The committee will next meet at 10 a.m. April 11 in the Senate Finance Hearing Room. Further meetings are planned for 10 a.m. April 25 and May 9 with agendas for those meetings to be announced at a later date.

Expenditures to be discussed at the April 11 meeting include:

- Sales to churches and other nonprofits.
- Sales to the state and any of its political subdivisions.
- Sales by churches and certain non-profits.
- Tangible personal property used in the manufacturing of tangible personal property.
- Packaging and packaging equipment.

The committee met for the first time in October for an introductory presentation from Tax Commissioner Joe Testa, who walked members through the Tax Expenditure Report, which is produced every two years with the executive budget proposal. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, October 17, 2017)

Following the first meeting, Sen. Oelslager said he was soliciting input from members on the committee's path forward and members didn't appear to expect a quick turnaround in the review of the \$9 billion-plus a year in tax credits, exemptions and discounts in Revised Code.

Republican lawmakers previously drew criticism from parties hoping for an in-depth review for failing to appoint members by the statutory deadline. The committee has a July 1 deadline to issue a report.

It's not the first legislative effort in recent years to examine the state's expenditures. The 2020 Tax Study Commission, convened in part for that purpose, last year declined to make a firm recommendation on the subject in its final report, kicking the task instead to the new committee. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, October 4, 2017)

Pennsylvania Special Election Results Reverberate In Ohio

A Republican's loss this week of a partly suburban congressional district in Pennsylvania that President Donald Trump won by nearly 20 points is leading some to draw parallels with Ohio's 12th Congressional District.

Sabato's Crystal Ball downgraded the seat recently held by former Rep. Pat Tiberi from "Likely Republican" to "Lean Republican" in the wake of Democrat Conor Lamb's razor-thin victory in the district that borders Ohio.

"If there's a parallel to PA-18, it would be if the areas of the district closest to Columbus swing heavily to the Democratic nominee as a protest against Trump, much like areas of PA-18 did on Tuesday," Sabato's Kyle Kondik wrote.

However, Mr. Kondik also noted that the district that President Trump won by about 11 points has about twice as many registered Republicans as Democrats, although more than half the registered voters are unaffiliated.

The Ohio Democratic Party crowed about the results in the special election.

"Congressman Pat Tiberi - who represented a district Trump won by 11 points - looked for the exits, rather than try to run for re-election," Chairman David Pepper said in a statement. "Now there will be a special election in Ohio's 12th Congressional District this August, and the Ohio Democratic Party is looking forward to supporting our eventual nominee with a strong grassroots effort."

A dozen Republicans, a Green Party candidate and seven Democrats are vying for the seat, including Franklin County Recorder Danny O'Connor.

"The momentum of this race continues to build because people see a chance to fix a broken system in Washington," Mr. O'Connor said in a statement. "Central Ohioans are focused on good jobs, safe communities, and access to quality and affordable healthcare, not the latest mudslinging out of D.C."

The result also led Sabato's Crystal Ball to downgrade the 14th, 15th and 16th congressional districts from "Safe Republican" to "Likely Republican."

"These districts cover significant portions of suburban Columbus (OH-15) and Cleveland (OH-14 and OH-16), and the areas of these districts closest to their respective big cities have the potential to mimic the suburban portions of Pittsburgh that powered Lamb to victory on Tuesday," Mr. Kondik wrote.

One of the six Democrats vying for the open seat in the 16th Congressional District, Grant Goodrich, sought to compare himself to Mr. Lamb.

"As a fellow Marine Corps veteran like Conor Lamb, I believe we share a similar approach to fighting for the rights of organized labor, protecting Social Security and Medicare programs that our seniors rely on, and bringing honesty, integrity and new

leadership to Washington that focuses on fixing problems, not partisan squabbling," he said.

Mr. Goodrich's campaign received a boost Friday in the form of an endorsement from U.S. Rep. Marcia Fudge (D-Cleveland).

"We have a real chance to take back the House of Representatives this year, and to do that we need candidates who have the best chance to win in November. Grant Goodrich is that candidate," she said.

"Grant is a fresh voice with the right mix of experience, leadership and real integrity to capture this seat. He has served his country as a Marine Corps infantry officer and has been a leader on important issues in Northeast Ohio. Grant Goodrich is the type of candidate that can stand up to the extremists and appeal to a diverse group of voters."

Added Mr. Goodrich: "Rep. Fudge is a passionate champion for our region and is one of the nation's most respected officials. We are fortunate to have her representing us in Washington. I look forward to working with Rep. Fudge to tackle the real needs of the residents of northeast Ohio."

Antani Walks Back Gun Comments; Cordray Adds 14 County Party Chairs To List Of Endorsers; COHHIO Calls For More Affordable Housing

A lawmaker's comments on guns to a newspaper has led him to revisit his statement and drawn criticism from others.

Rep. Niraj Antani (R-Miamisburg) told *The Dayton Daily News* that he believes students should have the option to carry long guns in schools.

"My view is that anyone who is of age should be able to carry a firearm wherever they want," the paper reported. "The only restriction I believe in is for private property."

However, on Friday he took to Twitter to address the subsequent uproar.

"Yesterday, I learned a lesson. A reporter asked me a question about Second Amendment issues. I told the reporter I believed that gun free zones do not work, and that every law abiding person who is of age has a right to carry to defend themselves," he wrote.

"I am not advocating the arming of students. I am not proposing or introducing any bill or legislation detailing with what was in the *Dayton Daily News* and WHIO. I did a poor job of communicating my position, and I apologize for that. I hope you will give me the benefit of the doubt by contacting me directly so I can better explain my position."

Before he released his statement, Rep. Teresa Fedor (D-Toledo) and Democratic gubernatorial candidate Dennis Kucinich released their own criticizing Rep. Antani.

Rep. Fedor said the suggestion "violates every shred of commonsense, responsible lawmaking, and is better saved for oppressive regimes in foreign lands - not America."

"We should be deeply troubled and angered by politicians who suggest arming students is an appropriate response to the national discussion on common sense ways to reduce gun violence in our nation," she said. "Too many politicians have robbed our students of a childhood by failing to keep them safe, which has pushed them out of our schools and into the streets to fight for accountability from their elected officials. It's clear some politicians still aren't listening."

Mr. Kucinich called Rep. Antani's suggestion "sheer madness."

"Sanity and safety demand that we not encourage more weapons in our schools and that we outlaw assault weapons," he said. "This is an urgent matter of public health and safety. We must not wait for another incident."

Party Chairs: The gubernatorial campaign of Richard Cordray on Friday announced the endorsements of 14 county party chairs in southern Ohio.

"Democrats need a ticket in 2018 that can compete in every corner of our state with a proven record of spreading economic opportunity to all Ohioans - Rich Cordray and Betty Sutton are that ticket," Dinah Phillips, Highland County Democratic Party Chair and head of the Association of Southern Ohio Democratic Chairs, said in a statement.

"Rich and Betty have spent their careers in public service standing on the side of people and communities that have been left behind by the special interests, and they'll continue that work as our next governor and lieutenant governor."

Added Mr. Cordray: "Too many places, particularly in Southern Ohio, have been neglected by leaders in the statehouse who care more about cutting taxes for the wealthy than investing in our rural communities - that's wrong and it needs to end."

Affordable Housing: The Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio said state lawmakers have not put enough attention on the lack of affordable housing for low-income residents.

A report released by the National Low Income Housing Coalition found that just 42% of rental units are affordable and available for every 100 extremely low-income tenant households in the state.

"We hear a lot about the opiate epidemic, infant mortality, jobs, and education. But the candidates haven't said much about Ohio's affordable housing crunch yet," COHHIO Executive Director Bill Faith said in a statement. "Housing is key to fixing all these issues. People need a safe, decent affordable place to live in order to recover from addiction, raise a healthy baby, hold down a job, and do well in school. We'll never build a healthier, wealthier, better educated Ohio unless we first stabilize our foundation - housing."

Kasich Outlines Tariff Impact On Potential Ethane Cracker; Democrat Targets Fracking On Public Lands...

Gov. John Kasich this week continued building on his prior comments regarding the impact new steel and aluminum tariffs could have on a potential ethane cracker plant in Belmont County.

On Monday, the governor told reporters that the tariffs would drive up construction costs during a joint press conference with Asian companies considering whether to move forward with the project. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, March 12, 2018)

He elaborated on that view later in the week during an appearance on CNBC, remarking the state is "very close" to landing the \$5-10 billion investment from Thailand's PTT Global and Daelim in South Korean.

"Will these tariffs increase the cost of building that plant?" Gov. Kasich said. "Hello. Of course it will."

He also criticized the nature in which President Donald Trump announced the move, which includes a new 25% tariff on steel imports and a 10% tariff on aluminum imports. The announcement was reportedly made on the spur of the moment by Mr. Trump with little to no vetting from his staff - a decision that prompted division among his economic advisors as well as congressional Republicans.

"I don't just walk into a room somehow and announce some big action without having a through process," Gov. Kasich said. "There was no process in this. I just think protectionism doesn't work. It costs the consumers money. It means that we don't have the kind of innovation we want."

He added that members of the Canadian government spoke with his staff expressing their concerns with the tariffs.

Oil and Gas: Rep. David Leland (D-Columbus) on Friday announced plans for legislation he said will protect state parks and nature preserves from fracking. The legislation would prohibit any new well permits for lands typically used by citizens, according to the sponsor.

His announcement comes one day after the inaugural meeting of the Ohio Oil and Gas Leasing Commission, which is tasked with reviewing industry-nominated lease proposals for drilling on state property. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, March 15, 2018)

"It is my hope that we can all share a vision for our state that includes meeting our energy needs without ever having to sacrifice our beautiful state and local parks, forests, nature preserves, and wildlife areas," Rep. Leland said in a statement. "Conserving Ohio's public lands ensures they will be around for future generations to utilize and enjoy."

Energy Assistance: Representatives of Columbia Gas of Ohio urged federal lawmakers to maintain funding for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program despite President Trump's proposal to slash funding.

Called LIHEAP, the program assists eligible households with their energy bills along with funding weatherization and energy-related home repairs. The company's efforts were part of an organized lobbying initiative as companies and advocates fight to see funding maintained.

"Approximately 6 million households are helped by LIHEAP in each heating season, but more than 35 million households are eligible for assistance, according to the National Energy & Utility Affordability Coalition," Columbia Gas said. "Despite this need, LIHEAP funding has been reduced by 34% since 2010. The president's fiscal year 2019 budget has proposed eliminating LIHEAP funding entirely."

Court Sides With School District In Tax Disputes; ACLU Calls On County To Change Bail Policies; OSBA Announces Tech Partnership...

A Franklin County school district this week won two cases in the Ohio Supreme Court over property valuations.

In siding with the South-Western City School District, the high court upheld the initial valuation of the Franklin County Auditor's Office. Both were unanimous per curiam decisions.

In the first decision, a property owner challenged the 2012 valuation of \$1.3 million, requesting that it be reduced by \$700,000, the court reported.

The Board of Revisions lowered the valuation to \$780,000, a decision the school district took to the Board of Tax Appeals, which remanded the case back the Board of Revisions.

The district appealed to the high court, which found the BTA should have reinstated the auditor's original value.

In the second decision, the high court reinstated a \$328,700 valuation on a 55-acre agricultural property that the owner argued should be reduced to \$272,000.

Bail Policies: The ACLU of Ohio is calling on Cuyahoga County officials to adopt recommendations from a bail task force

The recommendations come from the Cuyahoga County Task Force on Bail, led by Judge John Russo, and include speedy access to bail hearings with a right to counsel, consideration of a person's ability to pay, reduced reliance on money bail and a presumption of personal recognizance release for those accused of nonviolent offenses.

In New Jersey, similar changes resulted in a 20% reduction in the pretrial jail population.

"Overcrowded jails with people who have not been convicted of a crime and could be in the community safely comes with a significant cost - to families, neighborhoods, and taxpayers. After only 72 hours in jail, research shows a person is far more likely to lose her job and housing, commit a future crime, and plead guilty to charges she did not commit," Mike Brickner, senior policy director, said in a statement.

Tech Partnership: The Ohio State Bar Association announced that it has formed a first of its kind partnership with Tali, which it describes as "the leader in conversational time-tracking and productivity software."

"Technology is having a dramatic impact on the practice of law. As the largest legal network in the state of Ohio, we work to stay ahead of the curve and to leverage new tools, like Tali, that help our member attorneys improve efficiency and provide even better service to their clients," OSBA Executive Director Mary Amos Augsburger said. "Tali is the latest in an ever-growing library of practice management benefits you can take advantage of when you join the OSBA."

Added Matthew Volm, CEO and co-founder of Tali: "As the only voice-driven, time-tracking and productivity tool recommended by the OSBA, Tali's powerful functionality will do a lot to help Ohio attorneys capture more of their billable time and automate the time entry process, one of the most tedious parts of the job."

Mock Trial: The high court announced that Sylvania Southview High School won the Ohio High School Mock Trial State Finals.

The Lucas County school defeated Springfield High School and will move on to compete at the National High School Mock Trial Championship in Reno in May.

DSW's Fourth-Quarter Dividend Increases With Rising Sales; Big Lots, Scripps, More Report Financial Results; Ohio Projects Ranked

Fourth quarter sales at DSW jumped 6.7% to \$720 million while comparable sales increased 1.3%, the Columbus-based retailer announced this week.

The performance signified the company's first year of adjusted earnings growth since 2013, CEO Roger Rawlins said.

"Our initiatives drove comparable sales growth and strong margin improvement at the DSW Segment this quarter," he said.

In the company's quarterly financial report, Mr. Rawlins also detailed how the shoes and accessories company will put to use a savings that resulted from recent federal tax changes.

"We are drawing on our strong cash flow and the benefit from U.S. Tax Reform to enhance shareholder returns by boosting our quarterly dividend and reinvesting in strategic initiatives that will advance DSW's dominant position in the marketplace in the years to come," he said.

The company's board of directors increased the quarterly dividend by 25% to \$0.25 per share, it reported.

Commercial Vehicle Group: The company ended the fourth quarter with \$188.3 million in revenues compared to \$150 million in the prior-year period. For the year, revenues were \$755.2 million compared to \$662.1 million in 2016.

The jump was the primary result of "an increase in heavy-duty truck production in North America and improvement in the construction equipment markets we serve," according to a company release. Foreign currency translation further favorably impacted fourth quarter revenues by \$3.7 million, or 2.5%.

ViewRay: The Cleveland company reported record revenue in 2017, which came in at \$34 million, up from \$22.2 million the year prior.

In the fourth quarter, revenue was \$19.9 million, which is an increase over the \$16.1 million reported for the same period in 2016, according to financial reports.

Total gross profit for the quarter was \$4.3 million, compared to a loss of \$1.2 million, and total profit for the full year was \$6.3 million, compared to a loss of \$3.6 million.

Big Lots: The Columbus-based retailer reported more than \$1.6 billion in sales in the fourth quarter, which is up thanks to a shift in the 2017 retail calendar that added another week to the quarter.

Fourth-quarter income was \$104.8 million, or \$2.46 per diluted share, which exceeded the company's guidance, it announced.

For the fiscal year, income totaled \$189.8 million, or \$4.38 per diluted share, which is a 22% increase compared to 2016, the company reported. Net sales were \$5.2 billion.

Verso: Net sales for the fourth quarter were \$639 million, contributing to net income of \$36 million, the Miamisburg company reported.

Sales declined \$7 million from the previous year, which the company attributed to "a decrease in total sales volume due to the general softening of demand for coated papers" and capacity reductions at the Androscoggin Mill.

NACCO Industries: For the fourth quarter, the company reported consolidated revenues of \$26.4 million and consolidated income from continuing operations of \$9.7 million, or \$1.40 per diluted share.

In 2017, consolidated revenues were \$104.8 million and consolidated income from continuing operations was \$28.5 million, or \$4.14 per diluted share, the Cleveland company announced. That compares to consolidated revenues of \$111.1 million and consolidated income from continuing operations of \$3 million, or \$0.43 per diluted share in 2016.

Scripps: The company that paid out its first dividend in a decade last month has reported fourth quarter financial results in line with efforts to reorganize and restructure.

For the quarter, the net income from continuing operations was \$11.5 million, or \$0.16 per share, compared to \$36.3 million, or 44 cents per share, in the same period last year.

"In spite of a \$52.8 million decline in political revenue due to the non-election year, total fourth-quarter 2017 revenue of \$257 million stayed relatively equal to the fourth quarter of 2016," according to a company release.

In 2017, revenue was \$865 million for the year compared to \$868 million in 2016. Retransmission revenue increased \$39 million, while political advertising was down to \$8.7 million from \$101 million the 2016 election year.

Hyster-Yale: Consolidated revenues rose in the fourth quarter to \$795.5 million when compared to the same period last year, the company reported. Revenues were \$690.6 million in 2016.

Full-year 2017 consolidated revenues were \$2.9 billion compared with \$2.6 billion for the previous year, Hyster-Yale said. Consolidated operating profit in that time increased to \$76 million from \$34.9 million.

Governor's Cup: Ohio was the only state in the nation to earn top rankings for total projects and projects per capita in Site Selection's annual Governor's Cup rankings.

The state placed second for the number of projects and third for projects per capita. This is the fourth year Ohio has had the second most projects in the country, based on the magazine's rankings.

Cincinnati and Columbus were in the top 10 list for Tier 1 Metros while Akron, Dayton and Toledo earned top 10 rankings in the Tier 2 Metro category. Of the state's micropolitan, which are cities with less than 50,000 people, 18 were given spots in the top 100 in the nation.

"Companies in a variety of sectors are consistently choosing to invest throughout the entire state of Ohio, regardless of community size," said JobsOhio President and CIO John Minor. "These strong results demonstrate how our close collaboration with state, regional and local partners helps us to better deliver Ohio's valuable assets to help businesses thrive."

Agency Briefs: State Spending 6% Below Estimates In February; Auditor; AG; OEPA; IG; Labor Force; Governor; Lottery; ODNR; OSHP; SOS

General Revenue Fund spending was \$162.9 million, or 6%, below estimates in February, driven largely by underages in Medicaid, debt service, health and human services and education spending.

Primary and secondary education was \$13.4 million, or 1.8%, below what analysts expected in February, according to the Office of Budget and Management's Monthly Financial Report. School foundation spending was down \$22.4 million, or 3.5%, compared to estimates, largely due to spending in the EdChoice Scholarship program happening in January rather than February.

February spending by the Department of Job and Family Services was \$19.6 million, or 30.5%, below projections due to a shift in spending for the Ohio Works First and Child Care programs from the GRF to federal grants, according to OBM. The Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services saw its spending down \$19.5 million, or 48.4%, for the month, largely due to the timing of a payment to local boards.

Debt service payments were down \$22.6 million, or 37.9%, compared to estimates, largely due to transfer payments being made in January rather than February, per OBM.

Medicaid spending across all funds was \$105 million below projections, or down 4.6%, in February, according to the Legislative Service Commission's Budget Footnotes. For the fiscal year to date, all-funds Medicaid expenditures are below expectations by \$279 million, or 1.5%.

State Auditor: Dave Yost released a performance audit that identified nearly \$1.8 million in savings for Madison-Plains Local School District. His recommendations included reducing staff, trimming the bus fleet, reducing the subsidy for extracurricular activities and lowering the employer premium for dental and vision insurance.

More than \$1 million in savings could come from the elimination of 17 staff positions, including administrators, teachers, clerical, bookkeeping and other positions, the audit found.

Reducing the extracurricular subsidy could save \$180,200, the report found.

The changes could eliminate a projected 2022 deficit of \$7.4 million, the auditor said.

"Preventing deficits is never easy or painless," Auditor Yost said in a statement. "District leaders and residents will have to set priorities and make the tough choices needed to preserve the financial balance of the district."

Those recommendations would still leave the district with a shortfall of nearly \$405,000, so the audit recommended the district consider reducing teaching staff further, adopting

an across-the-board staffing reduction, freezing pay increases for three years or eliminating the subsidy for extracurricular activities.

Attorney General: Mike DeWine and the Department of Commerce announced that a New Philadelphia man has been sentenced to repay thousands of dollars made by selling fraudulent securities.

Keith Elsesser, 51, pleaded guilty in January to two counts of grand theft and four of unlawful securities practices for stealing more than \$90,000 from two people. He was sentenced to pay full restitution.

AG DeWine and members of the Central Ohio Human Trafficking Task Force also announced the arrests of four people accused of trafficking nearly a dozen women in the Columbus area.

Curtis Gossett, 59, of Columbus; Stacey Rockey, 44, of Lancaster; Christina Austin, 28, of Columbus; and Jeffrey Bagley, 37, of Columbus, all face charges including trafficking in persons, engaging in a pattern of corrupt activity, compelling prostitution, promoting prostitution and money laundering.

"Over the course of the investigation, task force members identified and rescued a number of human trafficking victims who fell prey to this alleged human trafficking organization," Attorney General DeWine said in a statement. "I'm pleased that we were able to get the victims help and that the suspects are now facing charges."

The AG and Columbiana County Prosecutor Robert Herron also announced charges against an East Liverpool man accused of assaulting a police officer with fentanyl.

Justin Buckel, 25, faces 23 charges, including engaging in a pattern of corrupt activity, aggravated trafficking in drugs and assault on a police officer. The charges stem from a May 2017 incident in which he exposed a police officer to fentanyl during a traffic stop. The officer survived after receiving four doses of naloxone.

Ohio EPA: The agency will hold a public hearing to accept comments about renewing the general permit for storm water discharges from construction sites in Ohio.

The hearing is set for 2:30 p.m. March 28 at the Ohio EPA's central office, 50 W. Town St., Suite 700, in Columbus.

Comments can also be submitted in writing to Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, Attention: Division of Surface Water Permits Processing Unit, P.O. Box 1049, Columbus, OH 43216-1049; or emailing Jason.Fyffe@epa.ohio.gov. Include the permit number (OHC000005) on the envelope or email subject.

The EPA is also seeking input on proposed funding priorities for the Ohio Environmental Education Fund for the next fiscal year. A public meeting will be held at 3 p.m. March 27 at the EPA's office.

Inspector General: Randall Meyer issued a report on a Department of Medicaid employee accused of using his administrative rights to access employment testing materials and installing unauthorized software to access password-protected information.

Nathaniel Regula, an infrastructure specialist 2, was seeking an infrastructure specialist 4 position, and ODM requested an investigation after he scored a 98% on the test for the position after previously failing the infrastructure specialist 3 test, and with answers nearly identical to the answer key.

The IG's investigation found Mr. Regula accessed the test materials, installed unauthorized software to crack the software, copied the files to a USB drive, and accessed those files on the day of the test.

The report was referred to the Franklin County Prosecuting Attorney and the Columbus City Attorney for consideration.

Labor Force: The unemployment rate increased in all 88 of Ohio's counties in January, the Department of Job and Family Services reported.

Mercer County had the lowest unemployment rate at 3.1%, with Delaware, Auglaize and Hancock counties also at or below 3.5%.

Monroe County had the state's highest unemployment rate, at 11.2%, with Noble, Meigs, Adam, Morgan, Ottawa, Huron, Trumbull, Vinton, Jackson, Gallia, Mahoning and Pike also at or below 8%.

Governor: John Kasich signed an executive order reauthorizing the Ohio Statewide Independent Living Council, which was created in 2000 and reauthorized last in 2015.

Lottery: The Ohio Lottery Commission reported \$243.7 million in traditional ticket sales in February, down \$6.9 million from last February, with online draw sales of \$117.9 million and net instant ticket sales of \$125.8 million.

Total prize expenses were \$162 million in February, with online prizes totaling \$76.1 million and instant ticket prize expenses totaling \$85.9 million

Natural Resources: The department announced the indictment of seven people accused of participating in a poaching enterprise killing white-tailed deer and wild turkey from 2006 to 2017.

State Highway Patrol: Troopers made 17 weapon arrests and 248 drug arrests as part of the 6-State Trooper Project to remove drugs and illegal weapons from communities between March 8 and March 10.

The partnership, which involves state police in Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Pennsylvania and West Virginia, was aimed at coordinating law enforcement services and sharing intelligence.

Secretary of State: Jon Husted announced that 9,634 new entities had filed to do business in Ohio in February, down from 10,204 during the same month in 2017. The secretary's office said 80% of all new businesses are now started online through Ohio Business Central.

Supplemental Agency Calendar **Monday, March 19**

Lottery Commission, 4th Fl., 615 W. Superior Ave., Cleveland, 12 p.m.

Board of Deposit, 30 East Broad St., 9th Floor, Columbus, 1:45 p.m.

17 S. High St., Suite 630
Columbus Ohio 43215

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Click the  after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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From: Fiore, Anthonio

Sent: Friday, March 16, 2018 7:03 PM

To: Fiore, Anthonio

CC: Elizabeth Murch

Subject: Urging Your Support for Sub. HB 189 Before the Spring Recess

Attachments: Eric_Bakken_Regis

Corporation_Sub_HB_189_Letter_Of_Support_Signed.pdf; 2018_0316 OSA Ltr to
All Ohio House Members Urging Support for Sub HB 189 - FINAL.pdf

Dear Ohio House members,

We are writing to ask for your **support** and **expeditious passage** of the **occupational licensure reforms** to Ohio's cosmetology industry contained in **Sub.HB 189** before the Spring recess. The announcement this week of more private cosmetology schools closing makes it more important than ever to pass the reforms contained in **Sub. HB 189**. **Six additional school closures** were announced bringing the total number to **28 closures since May 2015** (or around 30%). In addition, we have included a few items raised by opponents that we are willing to work on in the Senate if the bill is favorably passed off the House floor.

I've also attached a list of all public testimony on **HB 189**. In addition the **letters of support from smaller salon owners** around the state, we just received the attached letter of support from Regis Corp that has over 30 brands under its umbrella with hundreds of locations across all 88 counties.

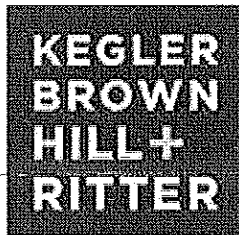
Have a great weekend. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Best regards,

Tony

Anthonio C. Fiore
Of Counsel

65 East State Street | Suite 1800 | Columbus, OH 43215



direct (614) 462-5428 | mobile (614) 906-8669 | fax (614) 464-2634
afiore@keglerbrown.com
[my bio](#) + [vCard](#) + [email](#)



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5th Hearing – March 7, 2018

Bill	Status	Amendments	Fiscal Notes	Analysis
<u>H. B. No. 189</u>	5th Hearing	–	<u>Download</u>	<u>Download</u>

Witness	Organization	Stance	Document
Wezlynn Davis	null	Opponent	<u>Download</u>
Patrick Thompson	null	Opponent	<u>Download</u>
Don Boyd	Ohio Chamber of Commerce	Proponent	<u>Download</u>
Sue Carter Moore	Ohio Association of Cosmetology Schools	Opponent	<u>Download</u>
Nancy Brown	Brown Aveda Institute	Opponent	<u>Download</u>
Brandon Ogden	null	Proponent	<u>Download</u>
Natalie Lockhart	IC Penney Salon	Proponent	<u>Download</u>

4th Hearing – February 27, 2018

Bill	Status	Amendments	Fiscal Notes	Analysis
<u>H. B. No. 189</u>	4th Hearing	<u>I 132 1073-3</u>	<u>Download</u>	<u>Download</u>

Witness	Organization	Stance	Document
Lisa Nelson	null	Proponent	<u>Download</u>
Ohio Salon Association	null	Proponent	<u>Download</u>
Don Boyd	null	Proponent	<u>Download</u>

Clara Osterhage	null	Proponent	Download
Chris Ferruso	NFIB	Proponent	Download

3rd Hearing – June 21, 2017

Bill	Status	Amendments	Fiscal Notes	Analysis
H. B. No. 189	3rd Hearing	—	Download	Download

Witness	Organization	Stance	Document
Greg Lawson	The Buckeye Institute	Interested Party	Download
Michael Shuh	null	Proponent	Download
Mahlaina Yeager	null	Proponent	Download
Dana Pallatos	null	Proponent	Download
Bridget Sharpe	Professional Beauty Association	Proponent	Download
Myra Reddy	Future of Beauty Industry Coalition	Proponent	Download
Nicole Cumberland	null	Proponent	Download
Rowena Yeager	null	Proponent	Download
Beth Hickey	null	Proponent	Download
David Boucher	null	Proponent	Download
Additional			
David Boucher	null	Proponent	Download
Rachelle King	null	Proponent	Download
Kerry Sawyer	null	Proponent	Download
Nancy Brown	null	Opponent	Download
Wezlynn VanDyke Davis	null	Opponent	Download
Patrick Thompson	null	Opponent	Download
Angela Harvey	null	Opponent	Download
Jill Hawkins Mitchell	null	Opponent	Download
Gerry Reis	null	Opponent	Download
Will Molden	null	Opponent	Download
Chris Ferruso	NFIB	Proponent	Download

2nd Hearing – May 23, 2017

Bill	Status	Amendments	Fiscal Notes	Analysis
<u>H. B. No. 189</u>	2nd Hearing	–	<u>Download</u>	<u>Download</u>

Witness	Organization	Stance	Document
Tony Fibre	Ohio Salon Association	Proponent	<u>Download</u>
Clara Osterhage	null	Proponent	<u>Download</u>
Charles Penzone	The Charles Penzone Salons	Proponent	<u>Download</u>
Frank Gambuzza	null	Proponent	<u>Download</u>
Lori Yearger	SportClips	Proponent	<u>Download</u>
Debra Tillery	null	Proponent	<u>Download</u>
Stefan Eckert	Great Clips	Proponent	<u>Download</u>
Bridget Sharpe	Professional Beauty Association	Proponent	<u>Download</u>
Frank Schoeneman	Empire Education Group	Proponent	<u>Download</u>
Tom Quick and Lisa Groome	Roosters' Men's Grooming Center	Proponent	<u>Download</u>
Tasha Shepline	null	Proponent	<u>Download</u>
Gordon Logan	Sports Clips	Proponent	<u>Download</u>
Dub Nelson	Roosters' Men's Grooming Centers	Proponent	<u>Download</u>

1st Hearing – May 17, 2017

Bill	Status	Amendments	Fiscal Notes	Analysis
<u>H. B. No. 189</u>	1st Hearing	–	<u>Download</u>	<u>Download</u>

Witness	Organization	Stance	Document
Rep Roegner	null	Proponent	<u>Download</u>
Rep Reece	null	Proponent	<u>Download</u>

REGIS

7201 Metro Boulevard | Minneapolis, MN 55439 | 952-947-7777

March 15, 2018

To: All Ohio House of Representatives

From: Eric Bakken
EVP, President—Franchise

RE: Urging your support for Sub. HB 189

My name is Eric Bakken, and I serve as the Executive Vice President and President—Franchise for Regis Corporation. I'm writing to urge your support for Sub. HB 189.

Regis Corporation is a leader in beauty salons and cosmetology education. As of December 31, 2017, the we owned, operated, franchised or held ownership interests in over 8,800 locations worldwide. We also maintain an ownership interest in Empire Education Group in the U.S. Regis owns or franchises 386 salon locations in Ohio, amounting to over 2,000 stylists and managers in the state. We operate under several brands in all 88 counties throughout Ohio, including: Best Cuts, Borics Hair Care, Famous Hair, Fiesta Salons, First Choice Haircutters, Haircrafters, Mastercuts, Regis Salons, Roosters, Saturdays, SmartStyle, and Supercuts.

At Regis, we are deeply committed to providing our customers with the safest and highest quality experience in our salons. To achieve this, we ensure our stylists and managers are properly educated and licensed in accordance with state regulations. We also offer our team members continued education and training to refine their skills, keep on trend and to stay in tune with the latest sanitary protocols. However, our industry has become increasingly competitive, most of which is attributable to a shortage in skilled labor. That's why for over four years, Regis has supported a group called the Future of the Beauty Industry Coalition (FBIC) whose main purpose is to provide reasonable reforms to state cosmetology law using research and analytics from all 50 states.

The FBIC consists of cosmetologists, students, salon owners, manufacturers, distributors, and cosmetology schools. The FBIC values our industry's appreciation of safety and quality, and therefore has proposed Sub. HB 189 which modifies the existing law and reduces the Ohio license minimum hour requirements from 1,500 to 1,000, as opposed to a complete deregulation of the industry. In addition, Sub. HB 189 lays the groundwork for model occupational licensing reform legislation for the cosmetology industry in all 50 states and helps to eliminate a barrier of entry into our industry.

The minimum 1,500 hours state licensing requirement serves as a barrier of entry into the beauty industry. In addition, Ohio's reciprocity law requires a licensee to sit for an Ohio exam even though they may have passed another state's licensing exam a month or so before. This doesn't help our stylist be mobile in deciding where to work and live, especially near Ohio's boarding counties. Sub. HB 189 reduces the hours to 1,000 hours for a full cosmetology license and helps out of state licensees come to Ohio to work and raise a family.

For these reasons, I am writing on behalf of Regis Corporation in support of the Ohio Salon Association's proposed comprehensive reform package to Ohio's cosmetology laws contained in Sub. HB 189 (and the

REGIS

7201 Metro Boulevard | Minneapolis, MN 55439 | 952-947-7777

companion bill in the Ohio Senate, SB 129). This reform is a positive step for our industry, and I respectfully request this committee's support on the work being done here.

Thank you for your consideration and the opportunity to submit this letter in support of Sub. HB 189.



Eric Bakken
EVP, President—Franchise
Regis Corporation



OSA

OHIO SALON ASSOCIATION

March 16, 2018

Dear Representative:

We are writing to ask for your **support and expeditious passage** of the **occupational licensure reforms** to Ohio's cosmetology industry contained in **Sub. HB 189** next Wednesday, March 21, 2018. The announcement this week of more private cosmetology schools closing makes it more important than ever to pass the reforms contained in **Sub. HB 189**. Six additional school closures were announced bringing the total number to 28 closures since May 2015 (around 30%). In addition, we have included a few items raised by opponents that we are willing to work on in the Senate if the bill is favorably passed off the House floor.

Sub. HB 189 will:

- 1) **Support Ohio's Attainment Goal 2025, that includes:**
 - a) **helping more Ohioans compete for quality jobs** that pay a family-sustaining wage and lead to career advancement;
 - b) **removing barriers to education and employment** for individuals;
 - c) **helping Ohio employers find the talent** they need to succeed and grow;
 - d) **providing effective and efficient job training aligned to in-demand occupations** and employer needs resulting in **workplace-valued credentials**; and
 - e) **assisting in achieving the attainment goal** of the **Governor's Executive Workforce Board**, **Ohio Department of Education** and **Ohio Department of Higher Education** to have 65% of Ohioans ages 25 to 65 achieve a credential/license or degree by 2025. (Ohioans are currently at 43% of that attainment goal.)
- 2) **Lower hours to reduce the barrier for women, men and minorities to enter the beauty industry.**

The bill:

 - a) **supports the notion that government should only mandate the minimum number of hours necessary to ensure safe and sanitary cosmetology practices as a barrier to entry into the profession –1,000 hours is the correct requirement** – though some believe this is still too many hours;
 - b) **equalizes the government mandated hours between public and private schools**. Public schools in Ohio **are already teaching at 1,000 hours** and producing graduates who are entering the workforce with similar graduation rates, licensure rates and earning potential;
 - c) **maintains high training standards without mandating an additional 500 hours on private school students**. A national study as well as salon owners indicate that **more time in school does not make the student more job ready**;
 - d) **acknowledges that there are currently more public students entering the profession at 1,000 hours of training rather than private schools at 1,500 hours**;
 - e) **ensures private schools are still able to obtain federal funding for students at 1,000 hours**, can require 500 additional hours and charge whatever they want for tuition – the question is whether students will be willing to pay for and attend such programs – the free market will decide; and,
 - f) **creates an apprenticeship option** for future cosmetology students to earn a wage while they learn about the beauty industry. Under today's 1,500-hour program students are forced to pay tuition and provide services to the public in school clinics without compensation for hundreds of hours.

3) **Stop Ohio law from unfairly requiring private cosmetology education mandating 1,500 hours at the expense of students when public schools already teach at 1,000 hours.** There is no risk to public safety if a cosmetologist attending a private school achieves 1,000 hours for a license just like the public school student does today. In Ohio today:

- Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT) attend **150 hours** of training.
- Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs) attend **1376 hours** of training.
- Police officers attend **695 hours** of training.
- Paramedics attend **800 hours** of training.

4) **Make Ohio a "RECIPROCITY-IN" state—our focus must be on job opportunities in Ohio.** Many states do not require licensees to take any additional education or even an exam when seeking reciprocity after one to two years of practicing as was indicated by a recent LSC review. The bill:

- a) removes the requirement of taking exams in Ohio if already licensed in another state;
- b) removes the requirement that the standards in Ohio for obtaining the license the applicant seeks are substantially equal to the other state or country's requirements;
- c) allows licensees to enter the workforce sooner with less debt;
- d) permits work experience/hours to count towards licensing hours when seeking to transfer a license to another state;
- e) requires the Ohio Board to use a national exam which makes our licensees more marketable in other states; and,
- f) maintains high standards, but makes it easier to practice in Ohio than in most states.

Although private school opponents have refused to attend interested party meetings we have addressed several issues raised by them and have highlighted the changes below. These changes are in Sub. HB 189. The substitute bill:

- a) permits **pre-graduate testing** to help increase licensure rates;
- b) returns **manicuring hours** from 100 to 200;
- c) returns **esthetics hours** from 300 to 600;
- d) removes the **5-year experience requirement** for instructors;
- e) removes the language increasing the **surety bond** from \$10,000 to \$100,000 for schools; and,
- f) requires **salons and schools of cosmetology to work in partnership** to establish the apprenticeship program.

As mentioned above, the OSA has been trying to address as many of the opponents concerns as possible throughout this legislative process. We are committed to working on the following issues raised by the opponents in the Senate if Sub. HB 189 passes out of the House:

Opponents concern: *Getting rid of the advanced license is deregulating our profession.*

- **OSA Response:** The advanced license doesn't provide students with marketable skills that garner a higher wage and is not recognized in other states. Since it was created a few years ago schools did not adapt and work to provide input on curriculum to make it valuable. Schools can still offer 1,500 hours' worth of classes or any other advanced classes they wish. There is no law preventing them from offering classes that exceed the minimum. And funding is available for up to 1,500 hours so they can get paid. The state should only legislate minimums for occupational licenses that are barriers to entry into a profession. In reality private schools combine the initial license at 1,500 hours and the advanced license at 300 hours and require students to attend and pay for an 1,800-hour program. This cannot be the case in the future.
- **OSA Compromise:** The OSA will support changing Sub. HB 189 in the Senate to preserve the Advance License for those licensees as of the effective date of the bill, so those individuals can indefinitely renew this license. This still provides any school the opportunity to create an Advanced

Certificate program, but such a program will not carry with it state mandated hours. Schools are free to provide cosmetology programs above the 1,000-hour requirement under Sub. HB 189 – the question is whether students will pay for the additional training and education – the free market will decide.

Opponents concern: *Natural Hair Styling license is valuable and should stay. It negatively affects ethnic populations to get rid of it including salon owners.*

- **OSA Response:** The first time OSA heard opposition to removing the Natural Hair Stylist license came on Wednesday, March 7th in the House Government Accountability and Oversight Committee hearing on Sub. HB 189.
- This license is not widely utilized—and it is quite burdensome at 450 hours of education to sit for the licensing exam. For instance, based on the Board's 2017 Annual Report there were 5 active and one new individuals with a natural hair stylist license, one active and one new individuals had a natural hair stylist instructor license, 34 active and 45 new individuals had an advanced natural hair stylist license, and there were 14 active and 4 newly licensed natural hair stylist salons. Compare this to 17,639 active and 2,708 new cosmetology licensees for the same period.
- **OSA compromise:** With that said, so long as the braiding registration stays in the law, we would compromise to allow the natural hair stylist license to stay in as well.

Opponents concern: *The way the definitions are in this bill make hair design the same as cosmetology at 800 hours.*

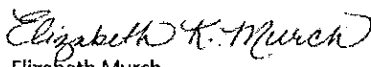
- **OSA Response:** The Ohio State Cosmetology and Barbering Board staff provided the language in the bill to clarify the practice of cosmetology which was included in the substitute bill.
 - Their intent was that cosmetology is defined as providing all the branches of cosmetology, and they believed the definition of cosmetology could not include cosmetology.
 - There has never been an intention of having a full cosmetology license 800-hour program as the opponents claim.
- **OSA compromise:** The OSA supports amending the final bill in the Senate to clarify and make clear that a full cosmetology license requires 1,000 hours, a hair design license requires 800 hours, an esthetics license requires 600 hours, a manicuring license requires 200 hours and a natural hair stylist license requires 450 hours.

The opponents should actually work with salon owners to address significant issues in the beauty industry, especially the fact that 28 private schools of cosmetology (or 30%) have abruptly closed their doors since May of 2015 and we expect more. These closures have required students to find alternate programs to finish their training very little to compensate them for these schools failing to help them become licensed and find employment in the beauty industry.

The Ohio Salon Association is focused on cosmetology student success, school success and addressing workforce issues for all salons and job providers in Ohio.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We have attached a list of business owners as well as state and national associations supporting HB 189 and SB 129.

Please feel free to contact our lobbyist, Tony Fiore, at afiore@keglerbrown.com or 614-462-5428 if you have any questions about this legislation.


Elizabeth Murch
Executive Director


Tony Fiore
Legislative Counsel

Supporters of Ohio HB-189 and SB 129

Arthur Gray Holdings, Inc.	Holiday Hair	QuickGroome, Inc. - Roosters
Beauty Supply Outlet	Hyland MH Retreats, LLC	Quiddity Partners, LLC
Best Cuts	Hyland Properties, LLC	R.L.O., Inc.
Bhooshay Enterprises of Ohio, LLC	Institute for Justice	Rachelle King
Blue Co. Brands	Intercoiffure America/Canada	RamseyRooney & Co.
Borics Hair Care	International Salon/Spa	Regis Salon
Burben Investments, Inc.	Business Network	S&L Cuts, Inc.
Carlton Hair	j.calico, LLC	SARJNT, Inc.
Charles Penzone, Inc.	JaNaMo Enterprises, Inc.	Sassoon Salon
Cincy Clips, Inc.	Jay-Mar Enterprises, LLC	Saturday's Hair Salon
City Looks Salons	JC Penney Salons	Sawyer Business Group, Inc.
Cool Cuts	JM Elliott Enterprise, LLC	Scott Burandt
Cost Cutters	Kerry and Anthony Sawyer	SDM Partners, Inc.
Courtne Wesselman	Lake House Holdings, LLC	Shaun Norton dba SportClips
CSJ Ventures, Inc.	Laventure, Inc.	Signature Style Salons
DANDREA, LLC	LGC Properties Management	SmartStyle Hair Salons
Daniel Feiwell – No LLC	LST Clips, Inc.	SportClips
Demer Retail Ventures, LLC	M&M Wardeiner, Inc.	SRL Clips, LLC
Eckert, Inc. dba Great Clips	Majicuts	Studio Wish Salon
Empire Beauty Schools	MasterCuts	Style America
Esquire Holdings, LLC	Maxco, Inc.	Supercuts
Famous Hair	Maxxco, LLC	Tasha Sheipline
Fiesta Salons	Michael's Salon and Spa	TGF Hair Salon
FirstChoice HairCutters	MMAO, LLC	The 220 Group, Ltd.
Future of the Beauty Industry Coalition	NeCole Cumberlander	Professional Beauty Association
Gem City Clips	NFIB/Ohio	The Visage Group
Gold Coast Ventures, LLC	North Coast Partners, LLC	Tillery Enterprises, Inc.
Great Clips	Norton Clips, LLC	Tillery Salons, Inc.
Great Expectations	Oakpoint Partners, Inc.	TJTKR Enterprises, Inc.
Hair Crafters	Ohio Chamber of Commerce	Trinity Leadership 6, LLC
Hair Masters	Ohio Salon Association	Trinity Leadership 7, LLC
Hair Plus	Outlooks for Hair	Ulta
Head Start Haircare	Panopoulos Salons	Vanity Ventures, Inc.
	Park 50 Clips, LLC	We Care Hair
	Pro Cuts	

From: Ohio Chamber
Sent: Monday, March 19, 2018 8:36 AM
To: Rep76
Subject: Ohio Chamber Legislative Update March 19

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**OHIO CHAMBER
of COMMERCE**

Legislative Update

March 19, 2018

Read about the issues that impact your business.

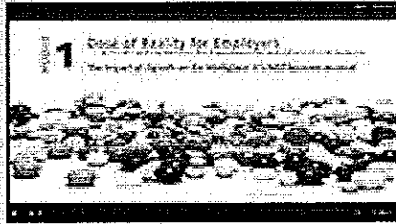
We're All For

Better Workforce Program Coordination
The Ohio Chamber weighed in this week on a bill that has gotten comparatively out-sized attention from media outlets across the state – you may have even read about it in your local newspaper. The bill is House Bill 512, which reorganizes Ohio's education system by creating a new cabinet level agency called the Ohio Department of Learning and Achievement (DLA). [Continue reading.](#)
[Click here](#) to read about the bills we are following.



We're All for Providing Information

Be sure to read our latest blog posts on allforohio.com for additional information that is of interest to Ohio Chamber members. Here are our blog posts from the past week:



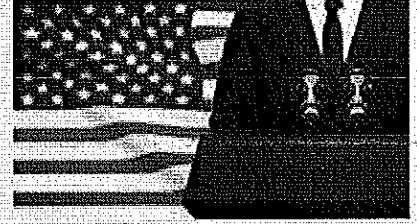
Help for Employers - An Opioid Toolkit

On Wednesday, March 14, the Ohio Chamber of Commerce launched the *Employer Opioid Toolkit: A Dose of Reality* to help employers deal with the opioid crisis. [Read more.](#)



OSU Coach Urban Meyer Annual Meeting Speaker

Join us for the 125th Annual Meeting on **April 18** to hear keynote speaker, OSU Head Football Coach Urban Meyer. [Continue reading.](#)



Ohio House Open Seat Primaries

Ohio's May 8th primary is right around the corner. Read about the candidates who are running for the House in open seat primaries. [Read more.](#)

We're All for Connections

At our April 18 Annual Meeting, we will be voting on our board of directors. To view the list of new and returning board of directors that will be approved at this meeting, [click here](#). Our issue-specific business advocates can help you navigate legislative and regulatory issues that impact your business. Our membership specialists can guide you through the services we offer. Our communications team can make sure you are getting the information you need. Just let us know how we can help. Here's how you can reach us:



Contact Ohio Chamber Lobbyists

Keith Lake, Vice President Government Affairs

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Don Boyd, Director Labor & Legal Affairs

dboyd@ohiochamber.com

Zack Frymier, Director Energy & Environmental Policy

zfrymier@ohiochamber.com

Jeff McClain, Director Tax & Economic Policy
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Kevin Bochner, Director, Small Business & Workforce Policy
kbochner@ohiochamber.com

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From: Sarah LaTourette
Sent: Monday, March 19, 2018 9:38 AM
To: Lundregan, Scott
CC: LaTourette, Sarah; Reineke, Bill; Myers, Marisa; Kasych, Shawn
Subject: Re: 32118 Whip
Attachments: Bills for Consideration - Week of 32118.xlsx

Good morning, everyone.

Attached is my current status. Everything looks ok on my end, but still several I need to hear back from. I just followed up with a text to all that haven't responded. Will update you as I get more responses.

Thanks!

On Fri, Mar 16, 2018 at 5:05 PM, Scott.Lundregan@ohiohouse.gov
<Scott.Lundregan@ohiohouse.gov> wrote:

Reps. LaTourette and Reineke,

Attached and below please find the whip information for next week. If asked about the status HB 345, Rep. Butler is working on an amendment that would alleviate any concerns raised by the proposed floor amendment during the last session.

Please let me know if you have any questions. If you could get us your responses by Monday around noon that would be great.

As always, Thank you so much for all your hard work!

Scott

Bills for Third Consideration

- House Bill 345 – Rep. Butler – Pending in Government Accountability and Oversight
 - o Award prizes for curing diseases

- House Bill 351 – Reps. Perales, Butler – Reported out of Ways and Means (17-0)
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- o Stop, watch, and listen for on-track equipment at rail crossings

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- o Regards how local governments are to contest property values

- Senate Bill 143 – Sen. Eklund – Reported out of Health (18-0)
 - o Designate International Ataxia Awareness Day
- Senate Bill 170 – Sen. LaRose – Reported out of Government Accountability and Oversight (10-0)
 - o Waive commercial driver test for military and veterans
- Senate Bill 226 – Sen. Bacon – Reported out of Ways and Means (20-1)
 - Make sales tax holiday for clothes and school supplies permanent

Snapshots

House Bill 345

As medical spending increases year after year, HB 345 seeks to promote research and development in a way that incentivizes innovation while containing cost. With the goal of finding cures, not just treatments, HB 345 creates the Solemn Covenant of the States, an interstate compact designed to award prizes for curing diseases.

The compact will create a Commission to review research, determine if a cure has been found, and award prizes. The Commission will choose diseases eligible for award and estimate public health expenses to treat those diseases. Prize money will be equal to the total 5-year savings in public health expenses in all the compacting states. The winner must transfer the patent and all related intellectual property for

treatment to the Commission in exchange for the prize. The Commission can then make treatment widely available.

By pooling resources, states can drastically increase financial incentives for organizations that discover reliable and verifiable cures of major diseases with little risk to taxpayers.

Proponents of HB 345 include the Gala Hope Foundation, Ohio Pharmacists Association, Ohio Right to Life, and Pancreatic Cancer Action Network. The bill has no opponents. It was reported by the Health Committee 12-3 with Reps. Antani, Huffman, and Kick voting "no."

The bill was re-referred to the Government Accountability and Oversight Committee to address the types of research that can be conducted under the Compact.

House Bill 351

In order to further support those that service our country, HB 351 exempts municipal income tax on earnings while members of the "uniformed services" are on active duty.

The "uniformed services" consist of the 5 members of the Armed Forces (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, including the guard and reserve components), the US Public Health Service and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The armed services already receive this exemption in Ohio, leaving the other two components of the uniformed services excluded.

The officers of the USPHS and NOAA are deployed in hazardous, emergency situations and can be militarized by the President when needed – this bill would ensure that they are granted the same tax treatment as the other members of the uniformed services.

HB 351 would have a negligible fiscal impact on municipalities, and the Ohio Municipal League is neutral on the bill. The bill was reported unanimously by the Ways and Means Committee.

House Bill 360

Ohio law requires public schools to adopt anti-bullying policies that prohibit "bullying, harassment, or intimidation" of another student, address disciplinary responses for violations, and set reporting requirements. HB 360 seeks to strengthen the anti-bullying statute, while providing schools with flexibility to address issues.

HB 360 allows schools to institute tiered suspensions based on the number of bullying incidents: the first offense would be up to 10 days suspension, the second would be up to 30 days, and the third would be up to 182 days. The school could also prohibit a bully from participating in extracurricular activities.

Additionally, the bill specifically permits a school to develop a community service plan for the bully and offer counseling and/or support for the bully and victim. HB 360 requires the State Board of Education to review best practices and requires state institutions of higher education to adopt policies regarding bullying and harassment.

Several changes were made to the bill in committee that focused on providing local school districts more flexibility and control over dealing with cases of bullying on an individual basis. The committee also accepted an amendment that exempted independent and private schools from the provisions of the bill.

HB 360 was reported by the Education and Career Readiness Committee 10-7 with Rep. Hood voting "no."

House Bill 392

Recognizing the role bees play in pollinating Ohio's crops and the growing popularity of beekeeping, HB 392 seeks to ensure Ohio's 7,800 registered beekeepers are not the subject of unnecessary litigation.

HB 392 provides immunity to beekeepers in personal injury or property damage cases that occurs as a result of a bee sting if the beekeeper does all of the following:

- o Complies with local zoning and all state laws pertaining to apiaries;
- o Registers their colonies with the Department of Agriculture;
- o Implements and maintains compliance with Ohio beekeeping industry best management practices.

While most cases are dismissed, beekeepers have to spend thousands of dollars in legal fees to defend themselves in these lawsuits. HB 392 saves valuable resources for apiary owners and also incentivizes owners to register small colonies with ODA. The limitation of liability does not apply to intentional tortious conduct or acts or omissions constituting gross negligence.

HB 392 is supported by the Ohio State Beekeepers Association and the Ohio Farm Bureau, but opposed by the Ohio Association for Justice. The bill was reported by the Economic Development, Commerce, and Labor Committee 13-2.

House Bill 405

HB 405 creates the criminal offense of counterfeiting. Under the bill, counterfeiting is generally a fourth degree felony, but this can increase if the value of the counterfeited obligations warrants a heightened penalty.

Under current law, counterfeiting is generally charged either as forgery, criminal simulation, or, theft. However, these existing offenses were not created to specifically handle counterfeiting of currency or credit cards, and the bill helps to eliminate this uncertainty as to what crime should be charged.

Experts have stated that, in the vast majority of cases, counterfeiting is part of a criminal investigation involving drug offenses and often crimes of violence. Thus, the bill is also an important step in fighting the war on drugs.

Proponents include Kevin Dye of the US Secret Service and the Fraternal Order of Police. There was no opposition testimony. HB 405 was unanimously reported out of the House Criminal Justice Committee.

House Bill 410

For the last several years, the General Assembly has attempted to regulate traffic enforcement cameras to ensure cities are not gouging motorists under the guise of public safety. The Supreme Court recently ruled that the practical regulations passed in SB 342 (2014) could not be enforced in Home Rule cities.

HB 410 does not further regulate or ban traffic cameras, but rather brings due process back to individuals that receive tickets. Currently, people are required to go through a city-run administrative hearing process to contest a ticket. HB 410 eliminates the administrative hearing process and allows individuals to contest their ticket through a court. The bill grants municipal and county courts original and exclusive jurisdiction over every civil action concerning a traffic law violation within the court's territory, including traffic camera tickets.

Additionally, HB 410 would offset the revenue generated through traffic camera schemes in the municipalities' allocation of LGF dollars. The LGF money would be redirected to a new state fund for traffic safety.

HB 410 was reported by the Government Accountability and Oversight Committee 8-4 with Rep. Greenspan voting "no."

House Bill 451

Current law requires a public office to allow for the inspection of records or obtain copies of public records that contain depictions of a victim's body. HB 451 exempts the depiction (by photograph, film, videotape, digital image, or printed material) of a crime victim if the release of the depiction would be an objectionable intrusion of a reasonable person's expectation of bodily privacy or the depiction contains or captures the victim of a sexually oriented offense at the actual occurrence of the offense.

HB 451 closes an important loophole in public records law and ensures a victim's privacy is protected. Due to the risk of exposure of harmful documents, this bill has an emergency clause.

HB 451 is supported by the Ohio Prosecuting Attorneys and the Ohio Alliance to End Sexual Violence. The bill was reported by the Government Accountability and Oversight Committee unanimously.

House Bill 506

HB 506 builds upon Ohio's already strong framework for commercial dog breeding. Current law defines high volume dog breeder as an establishment that keeps, houses, and maintains adult breeding dogs that produce at least 9 litters of puppies in any given calendar year and, in return for a fee or other consideration, sells 60 or more adult dogs or puppies per calendar year. There are currently 263 licensed high volume dog breeders.

HB 506 alters the definition of high volume dog breeder to an establishment that keeps, houses, and maintains 6 or more breeding and does at least one of the following:

- o sells 5 or more adult dogs or puppies to a dog retailer or pet store
- o sells 40 or more puppies in any given calendar year to the public, OR
- o maintains, at any given time in a calendar year, more than 60 puppies that are under 6 months of age that have been bred, kept, housed, and maintained from birth on the premises of the establishment.

The bill also establishes standards of care for high volume breeders enforced by the Department of Agriculture.

HB 506 was reported by the Government Accountability and Oversight Committee 8-3.

House Bill 190

Current law requires motorists to watch, listen, and stop for a train under certain circumstances at railroad crossings and requires other vehicles, like school buses, to watch, listen, and stop regardless of the situation when approaching a crossing.

To ensure safety at railroad crossings, HB 190 extends these requirements, aimed at avoiding collisions with a train, to on-track equipment, which can be as big and often as dangerous as a train. It also extends the same penalties for failure to comply with these provisions.

HB 190 was reported by the Transportation and Public Safety Committee unanimously. The bill is supported by the Ohio Railroad Association and has no opponents.

House Bill 343

Under current law, local governments may file complaints contesting the value of properties through the Board of Revision process. In some cases, the attorneys filing these complaints on behalf of the local governments have significant leeway to file

changes, generating business for themselves, with little oversight in a small number of local governments. HB 343 ensures local governments are actually authorizing these complaints.

HB would require local governments to pass an authorizing resolution and notify property owners in advance in order to contest property values. This will increase transparency and accountability in this process.

HB 343 is supported by the Ohio Chamber of Commerce, Ohio Manufactured Homes Association, and Ohio Real Estate Investors Association, but is opposed by the County Commissioners Association, Ohio Township Association, and the Ohio Association of School Business Officials. The bill was reported by the Ways and Means Committee 12-5 with Rep. Green voting "no."

Senate Bill 170

SB 170 requires the Director of Public safety to seek approval from the US Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration to implement a temporary pilot program regarding the waiver of the skills test for a commercial driver's license for military personnel. This waiver would allow many qualified veterans to pursue a career as a truck operator.

Additionally, the committee accepted an amendment that specifies the current universal validation sticker for large fleets of cars, 500 or more, does not expire. This saves valuable time for businesses that operate these large fleets.

SB 170 was reported by the Transportation and Public Safety unanimously. The bill was re-referred to the Government Accountability and Oversight Committee for the purpose of including the amendment. It was reported 10-0.

Senate Bill 226

For the past three years, the Legislature has enacted a sales tax holiday on a year-to-year basis. SB 226 will create a permanent sales and use tax exemption on certain back-to-school items during the first Friday, Saturday and Sunday of August of each year.

The tax exemption applies to items of clothing costing \$75 or less per item. It also applies to school and instructional material costing \$20 or less per item. There is no limit to the number of items that a consumer may purchase tax free. The intention of the sales tax holiday is to provide families with a tax break on back-to-school shopping, while also stimulating economic activity for businesses.

Additionally, the committee approved an amendment to create a new levy option for Educational Service Centers. Under the language, ESCs could seek voter approval for levies to pay for security upgrades and mental health services if boards of every school district in the ESC's territory adopts a resolution in support.

SB 226 passed the Senate unanimously and was reported by the Ways and Means Committee 20-1. The bill has no opponent

Scott Lundregan

Deputy Chief of Staff / Policy Director / Deputy Legal Counsel

House Republican Caucus

Ohio House of Representatives

614-466-1460

	HB345		HB351		HB360		HB392		HB
Member:	Yes:	No:	Yes:	No:	Yes:	No:	Yes:	No:	Yes:
Antani		X	X			X		X	X
Becker	X		X		?		X		X
Blessing, III	X		X		X		X		X
Brenner	X		X		X		X		X
Brinkman, Jr.		X		X		X		X	X
Butler	X		X		X		X		X
Dean									
Dever									
Devitis									
Edwards									
Gavarone									
Greenspan	X		X		X		X		X
Hagan									
Hood	X		X			X		X	X
Hoops									
Householder									
Keller	X		X		X		X		X
Lang									
Lipps	X		X		X		X		X
Manning	X		X		X		X		X
McClain									
Merrin	X		X		?		X		X
Pelanda		X	X		X		X		X
Retherford	X		X		?		X		X
Rezabek	X		X		X		X		X
Riedel	X		X		X		X		X
Roegner	X		X			X	X		X
Sprague									
Thompson	X		X		X		X		X
Vitale		X	X		X		X		X
Zeltwanger									
	15	4	18	1	12	4	18	1	19

From: Sarah LaTourette
Sent: Monday, March 19, 2018 11:36 AM
To: Lundregan, Scott
CC: LaTourette, Sarah; Reineke, Bill; Myers, Marisa; Kasych, Shawn
Subject: Re: 32118 Whip
Attachments: Bills for Consideration - Week of 32118.xlsx

Heard back from a handful more. Here's my newest count.

Thanks!

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<Scott.Lundregan@ohiohouse.gov> wrote:

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 - o Waive commercial driver test for military and veterans
- Senate Bill 226 – Sen. Bacon – Reported out of Ways and Means (20-1)
 - Make sales tax holiday for clothes and school supplies permanent

Snapshots

House Bill 345

As medical spending increases year after year, HB 345 seeks to promote research and development in a way that incentivizes innovation while containing cost. With the goal of finding cures, not just treatments, HB 345 creates the Solemn Covenant of the States, an interstate compact designed to award prizes for curing diseases.

The compact will create a Commission to review research, determine if a cure has been found, and award prizes. The Commission will choose diseases eligible for award and estimate public health expenses to treat those diseases. Prize money will be equal to the total 5-year savings in public health expenses in all the compacting states. The winner must transfer the patent and all related intellectual property for treatment to the Commission in exchange for the prize. The Commission can then make treatment widely available.

By pooling resources, states can drastically increase financial incentives for organizations that discover reliable and verifiable cures of major diseases with little risk to taxpayers.

Proponents of HB 345 include the Gala Hope Foundation, Ohio Pharmacists Association, Ohio Right to Life, and Pancreatic Cancer Action Network. The bill has no opponents. It was reported by the Health Committee 12-3 with Reps. Antani, Huffman, and Kick voting "no."

The bill was re-referred to the Government Accountability and Oversight Committee to address the types of research that can be conducted under the Compact.

House Bill 351

In order to further support those that service our country, HB 351 exempts municipal income tax on earnings while members of the "uniformed services" are on active duty.

The "uniformed services" consist of the 5 members of the Armed Forces (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, including the guard and reserve components), the US Public Health Service and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The armed services already receive this exemption in Ohio, leaving the other two components of the uniformed services excluded.

The officers of the USPHS and NOAA are deployed in hazardous, emergency situations and can be militarized by the President when needed – this bill would

ensure that they are granted the same tax treatment as the other members of the uniformed services.

HB 351 would have a negligible fiscal impact on municipalities, and the Ohio Municipal League is neutral on the bill. The bill was reported unanimously by the Ways and Means Committee.

House Bill 360

Ohio law requires public schools to adopt anti-bullying policies that prohibit "bullying, harassment, or intimidation" of another student, address disciplinary responses for violations, and set reporting requirements. HB 360 seeks to strengthen the anti-bullying statute, while providing schools with flexibility to address issues.

HB 360 allows schools to institute tiered suspensions based on the number of bullying incidents: the first offense would be up to 10 days suspension, the second would be up to 30 days, and the third would be up to 182 days. The school could also prohibit a bully from participating in extracurricular activities.

Additionally, the bill specifically permits a school to develop a community service plan for the bully and offer counseling and/or support for the bully and victim. HB 360 requires the State Board of Education to review best practices and requires state institutions of higher education to adopt policies regarding bullying and harassment.

Several changes were made to the bill in committee that focused on providing local school districts more flexibility and control over dealing with cases of bullying on an individual basis. The committee also accepted an amendment that exempted independent and private schools from the provisions of the bill.

HB 360 was reported by the Education and Career Readiness Committee 10-7 with Rep. Hood voting "no."

House Bill 392

Recognizing the role bees play in pollinating Ohio's crops and the growing popularity of beekeeping, HB 392 seeks to ensure Ohio's 7,800 registered beekeepers are not the subject of unnecessary litigation.

HB 392 provides immunity to beekeepers in personal injury or property damage cases that occurs as a result of a bee sting if the beekeeper does all of the following:

- o Complies with local zoning and all state laws pertaining to apiaries;
- o Registers their colonies with the Department of Agriculture;
- o Implements and maintains compliance with Ohio beekeeping industry best management practices.

While most cases are dismissed, beekeepers have to spend thousands of dollars in legal fees to defend themselves in these lawsuits. HB 392 saves valuable resources for apiary owners and also incentivizes owners to register small colonies with ODA. The limitation of liability does not apply to intentional tortious conduct or acts or omissions constituting gross negligence.

HB 392 is supported by the Ohio State Beekeepers Association and the Ohio Farm Bureau, but opposed by the Ohio Association for Justice. The bill was reported by the Economic Development, Commerce, and Labor Committee 13-2.

House Bill 405

HB 405 creates the criminal offense of counterfeiting. Under the bill, counterfeiting is generally a fourth degree felony, but this can increase if the value of the counterfeited obligations warrants a heightened penalty.

Under current law, counterfeiting is generally charged either as forgery, criminal simulation, or, theft. However, these existing offenses were not created to specifically handle counterfeiting of currency or credit cards, and the bill helps to eliminate this uncertainty as to what crime should be charged.

Experts have stated that, in the vast majority of cases, counterfeiting is part of a criminal investigation involving drug offenses and often crimes of violence. Thus, the bill is also an important step in fighting the war on drugs.

Proponents include Kevin Dye of the US Secret Service and the Fraternal Order of Police. There was no opposition testimony. HB 405 was unanimously reported out of the House Criminal Justice Committee.

House Bill 410

For the last several years, the General Assembly has attempted to regulate traffic enforcement cameras to ensure cities are not gouging motorists under the guise of public safety. The Supreme Court recently ruled that the practical regulations passed in SB 342 (2014) could not be enforced in Home Rule cities.

HB 410 does not further regulate or ban traffic cameras, but rather brings due process back to individuals that receive tickets. Currently, people are required to go through a city-run administrative hearing process to contest a ticket. HB 410 eliminates the administrative hearing process and allows individuals to contest their ticket through a court. The bill grants municipal and county courts original and exclusive jurisdiction over every civil action concerning a traffic law violation within the court's territory, including traffic camera tickets.

Additionally, HB 410 would offset the revenue generated through traffic camera schemes in the municipalities' allocation of LGF dollars. The LGF money would be redirected to a new state fund for traffic safety.

HB 410 was reported by the Government Accountability and Oversight Committee 8-4 with Rep. Greenspan voting "no."

House Bill 451

Current law requires a public office to allow for the inspection of records or obtain copies of public records that contain depictions of a victim's body. HB 451 exempts the depiction (by photograph, film, videotape, digital image, or printed material) of a crime victim if the release of the depiction would be an objectionable intrusion of a reasonable person's expectation of bodily privacy or the depiction contains or captures the victim of a sexually oriented offense at the actual occurrence of the offense.

HB 451 closes an important loophole in public records law and ensures a victim's privacy is protected. Due to the risk of exposure of harmful documents, this bill has an emergency clause.

HB 451 is supported by the Ohio Prosecuting Attorneys and the Ohio Alliance to End Sexual Violence. The bill was reported by the Government Accountability and Oversight Committee unanimously.

House Bill 506

HB 506 builds upon Ohio's already strong framework for commercial dog breeding. Current law defines high volume dog breeder as an establishment that keeps, houses, and maintains adult breeding dogs that produce at least 9 litters of puppies in any given calendar year and, in return for a fee or other consideration, sells 60 or more adult dogs or puppies per calendar year. There are currently 263 licensed high volume dog breeders.

HB 506 alters the definition of high volume dog breeder to an establishment that keeps, houses, and maintains 6 or more breeding and does at least one of the following:

- o sells 5 or more adult dogs or puppies to a dog retailer or pet store
- o sells 40 or more puppies in any given calendar year to the public, OR
- o maintains, at any given time in a calendar year, more than 60 puppies that are under 6 months of age that have been bred, kept, housed, and maintained from birth on the premises of the establishment.

The bill also establishes standards of care for high volume breeders enforced by the Department of Agriculture.

HB 506 was reported by the Government Accountability and Oversight Committee 8-3.

House Bill 190

Current law requires motorists to watch, listen, and stop for a train under certain circumstances at railroad crossings and requires other vehicles, like school buses, to watch, listen, and stop regardless of the situation when approaching a crossing.

To ensure safety at railroad crossings, HB 190 extends these requirements, aimed at avoiding collisions with a train, to on-track equipment, which can be as big and often as dangerous as a train. It also extends the same penalties for failure to comply with these provisions.

HB 190 was reported by the Transportation and Public Safety Committee unanimously. The bill is supported by the Ohio Railroad Association and has no opponents.

House Bill 343

Under current law, local governments may file complaints contesting the value of properties through the Board of Revision process. In some cases, the attorneys filing these complaints on behalf of the local governments have significant leeway to file changes, generating business for themselves, with little oversight in a small number of local governments. HB 343 ensures local governments are actually authorizing these complaints.

HB would require local governments to pass an authorizing resolution and notify property owners in advance in order to contest property values. This will increase transparency and accountability in this process.

HB 343 is supported by the Ohio Chamber of Commerce, Ohio Manufactured Homes Association, and Ohio Real Estate Investors Association, but is opposed by the County Commissioners Association, Ohio Township Association, and the Ohio Association of School Business Officials. The bill was reported by the Ways and Means Committee 12-5 with Rep. Green voting "no."

Senate Bill 170

SB 170 requires the Director of Public safety to seek approval from the US Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration to implement a temporary pilot program regarding the waiver of the skills test for a commercial driver's license for military personnel. This waiver would allow many qualified veterans to pursue a career as a truck operator.

Additionally, the committee accepted an amendment that specifies the current universal validation sticker for large fleets of cars, 500 or more, does not expire. This saves valuable time for businesses that operate these large fleets.

SB 170 was reported by the Transportation and Public Safety unanimously. The bill was re-referred to the Government Accountability and Oversight Committee for the purpose of including the amendment. It was reported 10-0.

Senate Bill 226

For the past three years, the Legislature has enacted a sales tax holiday on a year-to-year basis. SB 226 will create a permanent sales and use tax exemption on certain back-to-school items during the first Friday, Saturday and Sunday of August of each year.

The tax exemption applies to items of clothing costing \$75 or less per item. It also applies to school and instructional material costing \$20 or less per item. There is no limit to the number of items that a consumer may purchase tax free. The intention of the sales tax holiday is to provide families with a tax break on back-to-school shopping, while also stimulating economic activity for businesses.

Additionally, the committee approved an amendment to create a new levy option for Educational Service Centers. Under the language, ESCs could seek voter approval for levies to pay for security upgrades and mental health services if boards of every school district in the ESC's territory adopts a resolution in support.

SB 226 passed the Senate unanimously and was reported by the Ways and Means Committee 20-1. The bill has no opponent

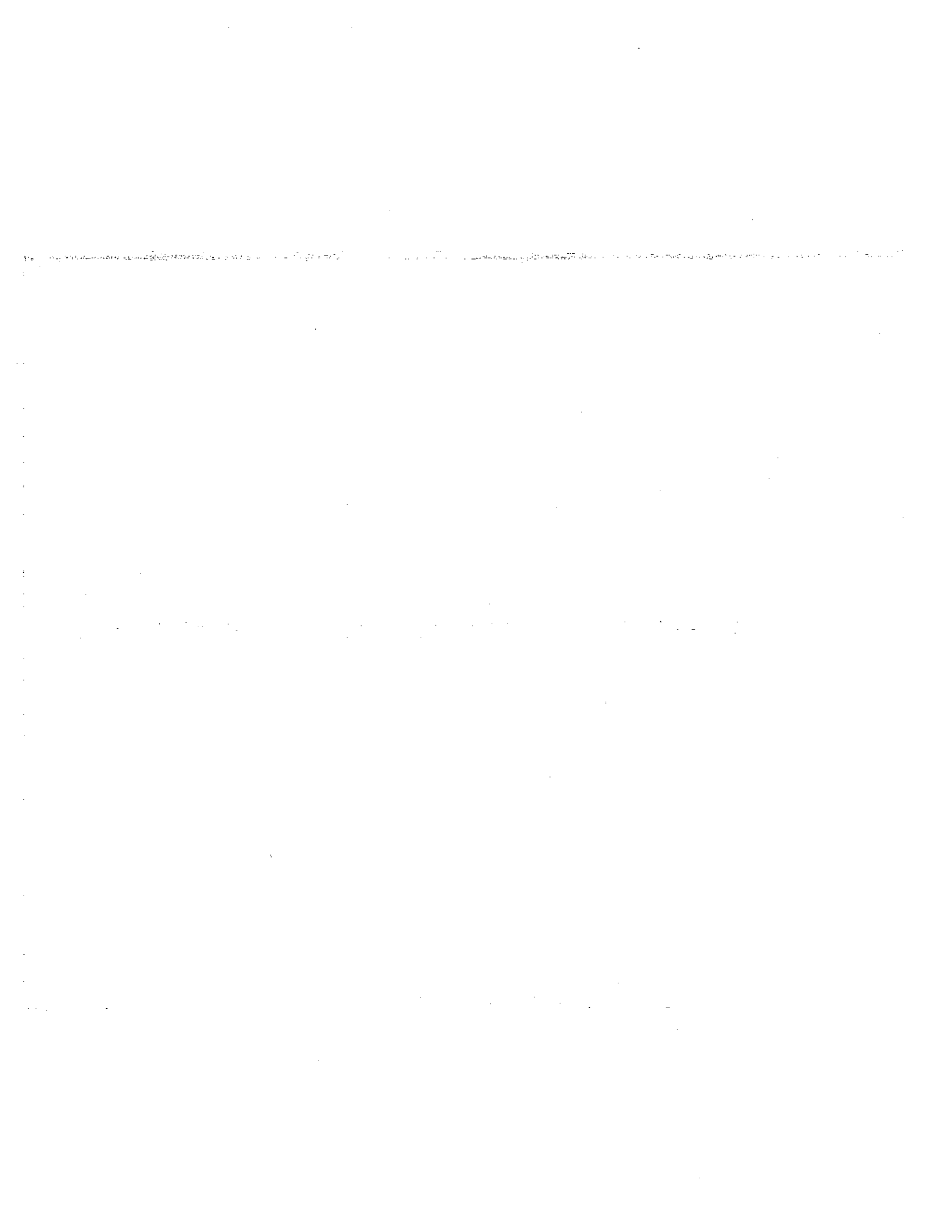
Scott Lundregan

Deputy Chief of Staff / Policy Director / Deputy Legal Counsel

House Republican Caucus

Ohio House of Representatives

614-466-1460



	HB345		HB351		HB360		HB392		HB
Member:	Yes:	No:	Yes:	No:	Yes:	No:	Yes:	No:	Yes:
Antani		X	X			X		X	X
Becker	X		X		?		X		X
Blessing, III	X		X		X		X		X
Bremer	X		X		X		X		X
Brinkman, Jr.		X		X		X	X		X
Butler	X		X		X		X		X
Dean									
Dever	X		X		?		X		X
Devitis	X		X		X		X		X
Edwards									
Gavarone									
Greenspan	X		X		X		X		X
Hagan									
Hood	X		X			X	X		X
Hoops									
Householder									
Keller	X		X		X		X		X
Lang	X		X		X		X		X
Lipps	X		X		X		X		X
Manning	X		X		X		X		X
McClain									
Merrin	X		X		?		X		X
Pelanda		X	X		X		X		X
Retherford	X		X		?		X		X
Rezabek	X		X		X		X		X
Riedel	X		X		X		X		X
Roegner	X		X			X	X		X
Sprague	X		X			X	X		X
Thompson	X		X		X		X		X
Vitale		X	X		X		X		X
Zeltwanger	X		X		X		X		X
	20	4	23	1	15	5	23	1	24

From: ltrpd@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2018 9:20 AM
To: Rep76
Subject: HB 189 OPPOSITION

First Name : Ralph

Last Name : delserone

Address : 615 Boardman Canfield rd.

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State : OH

Zip : 44512

Phone : 330.509.1378

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Subject :
HB 189 OPPOSITION

Message :

Dear Representative

I oppose HB 189 which adversely affects the cosmetology profession in Ohio. Reducing the Cosmetology License hours from 1500 to 1000 does not allow sufficient training to graduate well qualified graduates. This Bill was put forth by Big Chain Salons to provide themselves with cheap labor and demeans our industry. The large chain salons represent only 10% of the Salon Owners in Ohio. This Bill will harm the remaining 90% of Salons that are primarily owned by women in small business. The State of Ohio has always been held in high regard nationally in the Beauty Industry because of our strong education and well written curriculum. I am asking you to oppose HB189 and help protect the Beauty Industry in Ohio. Thank you, Ralph Delserone